

To Griffiths

THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.



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[ONE PENNY.]

THE NEW LAW COURTS.

If the report which has just been spread should prove true, with respect to the decision of the judges upon the law courts, come to without any reference whatever to competent professional advice upon the question of art, our worst fears will have been realised. We were prepared to some extent for the shelving of the highest art, but that work of this importance should have been given into the hands of an architect, perhaps the least competent to grasp a large subject—the one of all others trammelled by all the least amiable qualities of mediævalism we did not expect. We do not hesitate to say that of all the possible successful candidates the one said to be chosen is absolutely the very worst for the purposes required. Allowing to him indomitable energy and perseverance—a good deal of originality—we cannot shut our eyes to the almost entire want of fine art displayed in his works; carving of the most vulgar and crude description; rough rubble walls for the interior of buildings in close connection with the richest materials, like a swine with a jewel of fine gold and precious stones in his snout; sculpture applied, as in the present instance, in the most ridiculous fashion. So little in the case of the law courts did this architect seem capable of realising his design as a whole, that there is evidence of the most piecemeal construction—each storey being designed without the slightest reference to what was above or below it—queer little two-light windows squeezed in one a-top of the other wherever they could go, much of the work being not a whit better than the ordinary villa Gothic style we see around London. Why, we should like to know, do the judges propose choosing two architects when their business was to choose one—the one who had shown himself the best-fitted to carry out the work—except, perhaps, it has happened from laziness and indecision, from inability possibly to appreciate the great excellence of the art of Mr. Burges' design,



SIR WILLIAM GABRIEL, BART.

(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAULL AND CO., PICCADILLY AND CHEAPSIDE.)

which had not the advantage of being illustrated by pretty picturesque sketches, for which Mr. Street is so famous, and from want of courage to decide the evenly-balanced claims of Mr. Scott and Mr. Waterhouse?

Almost all the architects, on the sending in of the designs, declared that they ought to have had more time for the preparation of their plans. This has proved to be the case; and besides this the directions have proved to be insufficient. It will be a sorry way of getting out of this dilemma and saving time to attempt a compromise, which is almost certain to result in a breakdown. Let some more time be given—the site is not ready yet—for more mature consideration of the plans, and then let the best artist and planner be chosen. Let there be as good judges appointed to advise upon the architectural question, as upon surveying. We do not want to know what possible combination of architects might, if they could agree to work together, carry out this work; we want the most competent men, not a limited liability company—where the responsibility would be continually shifted from one to the other. If one of the competitors is to be selected—and that is the only course which can be sanctioned by common sense and justice—there is no doubt that neither Mr. Barry with his fair plan, nor Mr. Street with his mediæval monasticism, would be chosen. If Mr. Burges were selected we should be certain that the art of London and of the kingdom in general would be greatly benefited, and according to many very competent judges, both of the architectural and legal professions, we should have the probability of quite as good a plan as any other of the architects will be able to furnish. If Mr. Scott or Mr. Waterhouse be the fortunate executor of this great work, there is little likelihood that either will much disappoint the expectations of the public. Either of them will be pretty sure to erect a Palace of Justice worthy of the nation. But as to this absurd and impracticable compromise, it is the duty of Government to get rid of it.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On the bringing up of the report of amendments to the Reform Bill, Earl Russell called attention to the amendment of their lordships, raising the lodger franchise from £10 to £15, and observed that the effect of this alteration would be, in London, to exclude the mass of working men from the franchise. Large numbers of small landlords occupied lodgings under £15 a year; and, not imagining that their lordships seriously contemplated the disqualification of these persons, he moved that the words "fifteen pounds" be struck out of the bill, and "ten pounds" substituted for them.—The Earl of Derby believed that the whole of the circumstances which had induced the Commons to place the lodger franchise at £10 had not been clearly put before their lordships. The practical difference between £10 and £15, especially when the clear value was taken into consideration, was really so trifling, that he thought their lordships would do well to consider the question, and not to insist upon their amendment.—Lord Cairns, on whose motion the higher sum had been inserted in the bill, explained that when he made the proposition he was ignorant of the fact that already there had been a compromise on the subject in the House of Commons by the substitution of "clear yearly value" for "rental." Had he been aware of the circumstance, he should not have moved the amendment, and he was now quite ready to concur in the motion of Earl Russell.—After a few words from Lord Shaftesbury "fifteen pounds" was struck out and "ten pounds" re-inserted in the bill.—A motion by Earl Granville, to omit the clause enabling students and graduates connected with the universities of Oxford or Cambridge, occupying chambers in the city of Oxford or the town of Cambridge, to vote for the city or borough, after a short discussion, was negatived without a division.—An amendment by Lord Stratheden, to raise the occupation franchise in counties from the rateable value of £12 to a rental value of £20, was also rejected.—A clause, proposed by the Marquis of Salisbury, containing the regulations for carrying into effect the system of voting papers, was discussed at some length, and after receiving certain verbal amendments was added to the bill, the third reading of which was then ordered to be taken.—The Railway Companies' Bill and the Railway Companies' (Scotland) Bill were read a third time and passed.—A few other bills were also advanced a stage, and their lordships rose.

The Reform Bill, after a short debate, having been read a third time, the Earl of Derby thanked their lordships for the manner in which they had dealt with the Government proposal, and observed that during a parliamentary experience of forty-five years, he never recollected a measure of such importance being discussed with so little acerbity and party spirit, and he trusted that in the heat of debate he had not said nor done anything to give the slightest offence to any of their lordships. It was quite true that the bill was a great experiment, and in some measure a step in the dark, but he had such confidence in the sound sense of his countrymen that he believed the extended franchise now conferred would place our institutions upon a firmer basis, and increase the loyalty and contentment of the people.—The bill was then passed, and immediately afterwards returned to the House of Commons.—The Poor-law Amendment Bill was passed through committee, and the Metropolitan Subways Bill read a second time.—The Railway Guards and Passengers' Communication Bill was opposed on the motion for its third reading by the Earl of Lucan, and, after a brief discussion, the order was discharged, and the bill withdrawn.—The Agricultural Injuries Bill was read a third time and passed.—Some bills were advanced a stage, and their lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

COLONEL SOMERSET took his seat for West Gloucestershire in the room of Sir J. Rolfe, appointed a Lord Justice of Appeal.—The Factory Acts Extension Bill was read a third time and passed.—On the order for going into Committee of Supply a tedious and uninteresting discussion was raised by Mr. Seely with regard to the excessive cost incurred by the country for the management of Greenwich Hospital, and a motion which he founded thereon, that the expense was too great, and might be reduced.—Mr. Corry admitted that the expenditure on this account was very large, and announced that the Admiralty, impressed by the fact, had appointed a committee of their own body to inquire into the subject.—The other speakers on the occasion were Mr. Childers, Mr. Candlish, Colonel Sykes, and Alderman Lusk.—Mr. Seely then expressed himself satisfied with the statement of the First Lord and withdrew his motion.—At the instance of Mr. Hanbury-Tracy, Lord Lennox offered explanations relating to Mr. Henwood's proposal for converting line-of-battle ships into sea-going monitors.—Some discussion took place in reference to the grant of a free pardon to Edward Greenland, the late manager of the Leeds Banking Company, sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment for forgery.—Another subject which led to discussion was the declaration of the Congress of Paris with respect to freedom from seizure of enemies' goods at sea in neutral bottoms.—The House then went into committee of supply and passed the vote for Greenwich Hospital, &c.

Mr. Ward Hunt stated, in reply to Mr. Graves, that the tenders for the conveyance of the mails between the United Kingdom and New York were invited to be sent in under a convention with the United States, and that they would not be confined to vessels sailing under the British flag, though the Postmaster-General will of course give the preference to British vessels.—On the order for going into committee on the Expiring Laws Continuance Bill, Mr. McCullagh Torrion drew attention to the anomalous and unsatisfactory state of our extradition treaties with foreign powers, which he exemplified by reference to the well-known case of Lemirande. What ought to be done was to pass an Act settling, once and for all, the principle on which these treaties should be based, and providing a reasonable time, say two months, as the period during which any man arrested at the instance of a foreign Government, might claim the right to sue out a writ of Habeas Corpus. He had no objection to the appointment of a committee next session for the purpose of considering the whole question of the extradition treaties.—The bill then passed through committee. Progress was also made in committee with the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Bill, the Public Health (Scotland) Bill, the Turnpike Acts Continuance Bill, and the Recovery of Certain Debts (Scotland) Bill, were read a third time and passed.—Precisely as the clock was on the stroke of seven, Sir J. Lubbock appeared at the bar with the Representation of the People Bill, which had just passed through its final stage in the House of Lords. The bill having been brought up and handed to the Speaker by Sir Denis Le Marchant, the chief clerk, the Chancellor of the Exchequer moved that the amendments of the Lords be printed, and taken into consideration on Thursday next. The motion was agreed to.—The House re-assembled at nine o'clock, and proceeded with the business on the paper, the first motion being one by Mr. Brett, for an address to the Queen to reconsider the sentence of the court-martial held at Simla on Captain Jervis, with a view to reinstate that officer in his rank in the army, which gave rise to a somewhat long discussion.

It is said that though the operative tailors persist in calling the present state of things a strike, the strike is over. No master now wants workmen, nor will do so for the next three months. By the aid of machinery and the employment of non-union men all difficulties have been overcome. If the men think they are wanted they labour under an hallucination.

COURT AND SOCIETY.

MARY VISCOUNTESS COMBERGHE has left London for Tunbridge Wells.

Mr. W. G. SANDFORD, third secretary at Berlin, has been appointed second secretary at Stockholm. Mr. F. C. Lascelles, third secretary at Paris, has been transferred to Berlin.

The Greek reserves are to be called out forthwith, to repress any attempt Hail Frassaris may make against the Greek frontiers along Epirus and Thessalia.

The King of Prussia, Count Bismarck, and Baron von Goltz, Prussian Minister in Paris, are now at Ems. General von Roon, Prussian Minister of War, is in Munich. The Emperor Napoleon will stay two days at Salzburg with the Emperor of Austria.

We this week give a portrait of the present Lord Mayor, who has been created a baronet by Lord Derby as an acknowledgment of the magnificent way in which the Sultan and our other distinguished guests were received by the civic authorities.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, now on his travels, attained the 23rd year of his age on Tuesday last, having been born on the 6th of August, 1844. The occasion was celebrated at Windsor and in the metropolis with the customary demonstrations.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales will, it is expected, leave Marlborough House for the Continent about the 10th inst. Their Royal Highnesses will proceed to Wiesbaden, and will be absent from England for about two months.

The marriage of the King of Greece with the Grand Duchess Olga, of Russia, will take place at St. Petersburg in September. The dowry of the future Queen of Greece consists of four millions of francs given by Russia, and 800,000 francs given by the Grand Duke Constantine.

On Saturday a supplement of the *London Gazette* was issued giving a formal description of the investiture at Vienna of the Emperor of Austria with the ensigns and habit of the most noble Order of the Garter on the 25th ult. As already stated in our columns, Her Majesty's envoys extraordinary were the Marquis of Bath and Sir C. G. Young, Garter Principal King at Arms.

The Secretary of State for the Home Department has appointed Mr. Alfred Septimus Palmer to the inspectorship of mines, vacant by the death of Mr. Verrier. Mr. Palmer has had varied experience in mines, having been a pupil of the celebrated Nicholas Wood, and supervisor of mines in the North of England, in Wales, and in Somersetshire.

The Irish Attorney-General, Mr. Chatterton, will, we have reason to believe, be appointed in the course of this month to the office of Vice-Chancellor of Ireland, created under an Act passed this session. The present Solicitor-General, Mr. Warren, succeeds Mr. Chatterton both as Attorney-General and in the representation of Dublin University; and Mr. Theobald Purcell, Q.C., will very probably be the new Solicitor-General.

The Registrar has issued a notice that no contested case will be taken in the Court of Admiralty before the long vacation, but early notice will be given when the judges will hear matters in chambers and in court. The non-arrival of the letters patent constituting Sir Robert Phillimore judge has caused great inconvenience. Cases were appointed for every day last week, and are now deferred for some three months, and motions in The Great Eastern and other cases remain in abeyance.

NEVER, probably, has London been known to empty more rapidly. Except the peers detained in town by the Reform Bill, with the departure of the Sultan, beauty and fashion winged its flight; and the limited mail to the North has nightly conveyed jaded members of the House of Commons out of the sound of that eternal jargon of compound householders, rating and rental qualification, and other equally well-known and cordially-hated phrases.

On the afternoon of the 3rd inst., the Cheshire volunteers were reviewed on the race-ground at Chester, by General Sir John Garcock, K.C.B., Manchester. Nearly 4,000 men were on the ground, and after several evolutions had been gone through with great precision, a sham fight took place, the crossing of the river Rodee by means of a pontoon bridge being one of the features of the affair. At the termination of the fight Sir John expressed his very great satisfaction with the efficiency of the troops, and especially the Earl of Chester's Yeomanry Cavalry, 554 strong, commanded by Lord De Tabley.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE paid a visit to Aldershot on Monday and reviewed the whole of the troops forming the division at that station. The division, to the number 6,667 of all ranks, paraded in the morning, and marching to the common formed up on Gelmor-hill, facing south, the infantry (eleven) regiments in line of contiguous columns at quarter distance in front, and the cavalry, with Royal Horse Artillery, on either flank in rear, and the field batteries of Royal Artillery in open columns of batteries in rear of all.

THE VERY remarkable trial arising out of the will of a widow, named Mrs. Thwaites, was brought to a conclusion on Tuesday, in the Probate Court, when judgment was given by Sir J. P. Wilde. The testatrix was the housekeeper of a broker, and in 1816 became his wife. In 1834 the husband died, leaving about half a million of money entirely to the testatrix. At his death Mr. Simm Smith was his medical man, and that gentleman appears to have obtained considerable influence over the widow, who appears to have been the subject of remarkably extravagant insane delusions on religious subjects, and eventually, at her death, besides large sums given to Smith, his brother, and their families, left him residuary legate, involving an amount estimated at £180,000. The Court decided that the will was invalid, and this large property, therefore, comes to the children of a Mrs. Tebbutt, the sister of Mrs. Thwaites.

THE AGRICULTURAL HALL ENTERTAINMENTS.

On Monday this hall was visited by more than 10,000 people, attracted not alone by the improving character of the decorations, but by the splendid musical bill of fare provided for the public. The programme has been entirely changed, and amongst the most prominent features was the introduction of Jullien's celebrated "British Army Quadrilles," not only with all the original, but with some astounding additional effect, which created a burst of applause and enthusiasm. In addition to the grand orchestra, under the baton of Mr. F. Kingsbury, there were four military bands, under the direction of Mr. Dan Godfrey, of the Grenadier Guards, playing at intervals from various parts of the vast building. At the given signals the drums and fifes of the British army were heard in the distance, and as they approached the veritable drums and fifes of the Grenadier Guards marched into the building. Shortly, the bagpipes of the Scottish portion of the British army, also appeared on the scene. Presently the strains of a military band were heard in the gallery, and the band of the St. George's Rifles marched down on either side of the dais, and also augmented the great band on the orchestra amidst the cheering of the people. The whole bands then played together, combined with a discharge of musketry and artillery from without, and at the conclusion, with "Rule Britannia," the whole assembly rose and cheered vociferously. Mr. Kingsbury, as the representative of the combined bands, was called for, and bowed his acknowledgments.

HOME AND DOMESTIC.

At the Tipperary Assizes upwards of 40 persons pleaded guilty to being in arms on the 5th of March last, but alleged that they had been forced, under threats of death, to join the Fenians.

On Saturday, at Stoke railway station, a young man named John Green, a clerk in the locomotive depot of the company, jumped on the footboard of a carriage in motion, and losing his hold fell under the train. He died in a few minutes after the accident.

At the last meeting of the corporation of York, it was decided to apply to the Privy Council for permission to re-open the cattle market, and, subject to certain conditions, the Privy Council have granted a license for holding the cattle market.

The grouse disease prevails upon the Cumberland moors as well as in Scotland. We hear that, acting upon the advice of the head-keeper, it is not intended to shoot any grouse upon the Naworth Castle estates this season.

An extremely shocking murder and suicide took place on Friday night near Carlisle. An inhabitant of that city, named Tapping, a man in good circumstances, but who is reported to have been for some time in a low state of mind, went out with his grandson for a walk. They were shortly afterwards found drowned in a mill-dam, tied together with a cord attached to each neck.

The dramatic authors of France have, we perceive sent in a petition to the English Government, praying for protection for inventions, by a re-consideration of that clause in the International Copyright Act which virtually permits of their being pillaged without hope of redress or share of profits. We are glad to see that the French memorial is supported by the Dramatic Authors' Society. Justice has been far too long deferred.

"DEATH THROUGH FOLLY" is the characterisation given by the papers to the sad homicide in Cornwall, whereby a youth of seventeen shot his sister of fourteen, smiling upon him from the stairs just before going to chapel. Seeking for an umbrella, he came upon "an old gun," which he playfully pointed at the laughing girl; when he pulled the trigger, a charge of shot went through her head, and killed her on the spot.

The third year's annual prize meeting of the National Artillery Association, at Shoeburyness, was brought to a conclusion on the 3rd inst. by the delivery of the prizes. Excellent speeches were made on the occasion by the Earl of Longford, Under-Secretary of State for War; Colonel Harcourt, Viscount Hardinge, the Earl of Limerick, and other officers. A large and distinguished company of ladies and gentlemen witnessed the ceremony.

OUR readers may be glad to be reminded of the approaching return of the periodical meteors of August. Though a great shower is not to be expected, yet of all known periods that of the 10th of August is the most constant and regular. Anyone who will keep a look-out on that evening from ten to eleven can hardly fail to see more than an ordinary number, if the sky is clear. Their general course is from north-east to south-west; and the average altitude, about sixty miles.

The programme of the "Canterbury week" this year consisted, as usual, of a series of three cricket matches, which the authorities calculated, by beginning early and playing late, to be enabled to get through during the week, provided no serious interruption was occasioned by the weather. This year all three were first-class matches, and they included a very large proportion of the leading amateur and professional talent of the south of England, together with half-a-dozen eminent northern players.

At the Shropshire Assizes, on the 3rd instant, Joseph Lee, late treasurer of the William Watkins Lodge, in the Shrewsbury district, of the Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows, was indicted on numerous charges of forgery, embezzlement, and obtaining money under false pretences. The embezzlements consisted of appropriating to his own use moneys which, as treasurer, he had drawn out of the lodge's funds, with the alleged purpose of discharging its liabilities; the forgeries were committed partly to cover these frauds. The prisoner was sentenced to sixteen months' imprisonment.

At Liverpool, on the 3rd instant, Peter Matthews, a sailor, was charged with having stabbed John Grant, a sailor. The men both belonged to the British ship *Tennyson*, which had arrived on Saturday morning from Bombay. On the 3rd May, while at sea, the prosecutor and another were making a mat, when the prisoner found fault with their work. Words ensued, and from words the men proceeded to blows. During the scuffle the prisoner stabbed Grant in ten different parts of the body, with a sheath-knife, so that he could not resume his usual duties for five weeks. The prisoner was committed for trial.

At Birmingham, on the 2nd inst., Morris Roberts, landlord of Bell Inn, Dale End, was charged on remand with causing the death of Michael McNally. On the night of the 16th July the deceased and two other men—all Irish—entered the prisoner's tap and called for "three two's of whiskey." Robert's supposing them to be drunk, declined to serve them, and thereupon the men commenced to throw glasses, plates and bottles at the prisoner, but none of the missiles struck him so as to produce injury. The men made use of very bad language towards the prisoner, who presently produced a pistol and fired upon the assailants, killing the deceased. The magistrates, after consulting together, decided that it was a case that should be investigated by a jury. They left it open to the prosecution to lay an indictment for the graver offence; but they consented to liberate the prisoner on the same bail as before. The trial cannot take place before March next.

On the 3rd instant an accident occurred on the Warrington and Stockport Railway, a short distance from Warrington, by which an old man, named John Skelhorn, was killed under very distressing circumstances. The deceased, who was upwards of sixty years of age, was employed as gatekeeper at Reddish crossing, between the stations of Lymm and Heatley, and in addition to the infirmities of his age was subject to fits. On the approach of the one o'clock down train from Manchester to Warrington, he left his hut for the purpose of closing the gates; and while crossing the line was seized with a fit, and fell between the down rails. The engine-driver saw him lying between the rails, but not being aware that he was in a fit, did not shut off steam until it was too late to avoid his being run over. His body was mangled in a shocking manner, and as it was advisable that it should be interred at once, Mr. H. B. White, the deputy-coroner of the district, proceeded to Lymm, and opened the inquest, at which evidence of identification was given, and the deputy-coroner gave his warrant for interment.

THE OBJECTIONABLE "PROTESTANT" AGAIN.—Mr. Whalley's appearance—for nearly the first time—in the character of a British barrister is worth notice on several grounds, but there is one little point on which we should specially like to be informed. The report in the *Times* states that Mr. Whalley appeared "instructed by Messrs Gosling and Girdlestone." We should like to know what he was instructed to do, and who instructed Messrs. Gosling and Girdlestone? Without speculating on such a delicate point, we may be allowed to conjecture that he was some one of sufficient importance to induce a highly respectable firm to do a most irregular thing. Mr. Whalley's application had absolutely no legal object whatever, and it is probable that Mr. Tyrwhitt would not have allowed any barrister or attorney two minutes of his time on such a topic unless he had wished to take the opportunity of explaining the grounds of his decision.

PROVINCIAL.

THE nursemaids in Sheffield now quiet cross children by saying, "Broadhead's coming."

On Sunday a fire was discovered raging in the farmyard of Mr. J. Colgate, a farmer, Brockley-green Farm, Lewisham. When discovered a rick of hay of 70 loads was found burning furiously. The fire, it is thought, was the work of an incendiary. The fire was eventually extinguished, but the damage done was considerable.

On Friday morning the Tyndrum coach met with an accident near Dunbeg, four miles from Oban. The right forewheel came off, by which the coach was overturned and the whole of the passengers, both ladies and gentlemen, thrown out. One lady got her right arm broken and elbow dislocated. Another lady had her mouth severely cut, the other passengers escaping uninjured, although a good deal shaken. Seven of the passengers went back to Oban, and the rest continued their journey in private carriages.

On Saturday a young woman, with a child in her charge, while passing over a railway crossing at West Hartlepool, became bewildered at the approach of an engine, and ran away, leaving the child between the rails. Mr. Superintendent Davidson sprang forward to rescue the child, and in doing so fell across the line of rails upon which the engine was travelling. On the train passing it was found that both Mr. Davidson and the child were uninjured. It appears Mr. Davidson in his fall had grasped the child, and had rolled over the line and thus escaped.

On Friday, at the Salford Assizes, Michael Mulroe, alias Frank Moran, 48 years of age, was charged with the murder of John Buckley, at Manchester, on the 10th November. The prisoner had a quarrel with a street girl, when the deceased interfered for the protection of the girl, and was stabbed in the arm by the prisoner. There was no reason to suppose that the wound would prove fatal, but after a few weeks it took an unfavourable turn, and Buckley died. The jury returned a verdict of guilty, and the prisoner was sentenced to five years' penal servitude.

The number of shocking crimes which follow each other with startling rapidity at the present moment is really remarkable. A case reported from Shropshire, seems to show that the murder mania has invaded even the nursery. On Friday, at Halesowen, a girl, aged 13, named Fanny Brown, was committed to the Assizes on a charge of wilful murder, she having drowned the baby she was employed to nurse, a child a year and a half old, by drowning it in a cistern. It is alleged that she assigned as a reason that the deceased had spoiled her dress when she was going to the Foresters' fête!

A VOLUNTEER officer, Captain Donald Stewart, has been fined £1 by the Lowestoft Bench for assaulting two policemen in the execution of their duty. The constables had been posted at a barrier, with instructions to prevent volunteers en route for a review from entering any train except that provided for them. Captain Stewart desired to go by the mail train, and with this intention he presented himself at the barrier, armed and in full uniform, and when the policemen told him he must wait for the volunteer train he refused to do so, and proceeded to the violence for which the magistrates thought it their duty to fine him.

THE following is a scene that lately took place in one of the kirks at the Lewis, one of the Hebrides, on a Sabbath evening:—"Minister (*loguitor*, from the pulpit): Callum Mhor, why were you not in church last Sabbath? Callum: I was in church last Sabbath. Minister: You were not. Callum: I was. Minister: Are you ready to swear you were? Callum: To be sure. Minister shut up. Friend, *sotto voce* to Callum, on the way out (for Callum had not been in church the Sabbath before): 'Well, well, Callum, it was awful of you to offer your oath to a lie.' 'Ah, but,' says Callum, confidentially, 'isn't there a great difference between offering a thing and giving it?'

CURIOUS PHYSIOLOGICAL FACT.

In the following paragraphs Dr. Draper, in his new work, the "History of the Civil War in America," published by Harper and Brothers, N.Y., points out a very important physiological fact, never before recognized by any previous author—the geographical distribution of human character:—

"The nations of men are arranged by climate on the surface of the earth in bands that have a most important physiological relation. In the torrid zone, intellectual development does not advance beyond the stage of childhood; all the ideas correspond to those of early individual life. In the warmer portions of the temperate zone, the stage of youth and commencing manhood is reached. A critical observer cannot fail to be interested with the tone of thought and manner of action of these populations: their old men are only overgrown youths. Along the cooler portions of that zone the character attained is that of individual maturity, staid sobriety of demeanour, reflective habits, tardy action. Fire, vivacity, brilliancy, enthusiasm, are here exchanged for coldness, calculation, perseverance. Present gratification, a life of ease, a putting aside of care, are the characteristics of the southern edge of this zone; contentment in the anticipation of a happier future, even though that happier future should imply a life of unremitting toil, is the characteristic of the northern. The former seeks to secure its pleasures from the unrequited toil of those whom it can compel; the latter aims at the same result by securing the equally reluctantly-rendered gains of trade. The one relies on Force, the other too much on Fraud. Still more to the north, as the frigid regions are approached, the type of humanity answers to the later years of individual life—even the children are old men.

"Nature thus gives us, in the geographical distribution of human beings, a reflected picture of the ages of individual man. We need not go beyond the precincts of our own republic to recognise that truth.

"I have now to turn from the Atlantic to the Pacific region of the United States. In this, considering the recentness of its settlement, our thoughts must be directed, not so much to what is as to what will hereafter be, and, therefore, it is little that upon this point can be said.

"Such a sameness of climate as that between the Atlantic States and the corresponding latitudes of the Mississippi Valley is here no longer perceived. There are no longer the equally distributed heats or the symmetrical rains. On the contrary, we have to deal with a region of the most abrupt and violent meteorological contrasts—of a most versatile capacity for animal and vegetable life in all their possible modifications. In localities no very great distance apart there are scorching heats and eternal snows, sandy deserts sterile for want of rain, and districts marked by a perpetual humidity. That wonderful region has the capacity for accommodating all kinds of tropical, subtropical, and temperate forms of both realms, animal and vegetable.

In its interminable plains and basin-like areas, in its mountain heights and on their rapid inclines, new forms of organization will be developed. From such areas in Asia came most of our domesticated animals, our cereals and fruits. In the Pacific region there is an American Arabia, Persia, Palestine, Tartary. For a million of square miles the aspect of nature is altogether Asiatic, and then, on the coast, it abruptly approximates the European. Europe and Asia are here pressed into contact.

"Man also, in these varied abodes, will undergo modification; and since, under like circumstances, human nature is always the same, the habits and ideas of the Old World will re-appear in the New. The arts of Eastern life, the picturesque Orientalism of Arabia, will be reproduced in our interior sandy desert, the love-songs of Persia in the dells and glades of Sonora, and the religious aspirations of Palestine in the similar scenery of New Mexico."

FOREIGN AND GENERAL.

THROUGH the Atlantic cable we are informed that the Radicals have been successful in carrying the Tennessee elections.

It is said that M. Offenbach's "Robinson Crusoe" may possibly be given at the Opera Comique towards the end of September.

THE total sum handed to the Pope as Peter's Pence by the French bishops is estimated at from fifteen to sixteen millions.

MISS AUGUSTA J. EVANS has received the degree of Mistress of English Literature from the Baltimore Female College.

SOME fifty unpublished letters of Voltaire are said to have been discovered in Belgium by M. Philartète Chasle.

THE day fixed for the departure of the Emperor Napoleon for Salzburg, on a visit to the Emperor of Austria, is the 16th inst. The Emperor will be accompanied by the Empress.

THE body of Maximilian has just been given up to the Minister of Prussia. As to the Minister of France, it is ascertained that he will be detained as a hostage for damages which the Government claims to recover from France.

THE contract with the Secretary of State for India in Council, securing to the Indian Branch Railway Company, a 5 per cent. guarantee of interest on a capital of £4,000,000 for lines of railway in Oude and Rohilkund, was duly executed on the 2nd inst.

THIS week, a sketch in the *Charivari* represents Monsieur Prudhomme—the French Mr. Briggs—sadly seated before his wife: "Only two more sovereigns to come, and then that's all. My wife and I will find ourselves very lonely."

THE people of St. Louis are about to erect a bridge over the Mississippi. This work, if carried out according to the plan, will be the largest structure of its kind in the world; and it will certainly be of enormous advantage to the great central city of America.

In Florence the belief is expressed that something is about to happen. One of the superior Garibaldian officers said to somebody, "There is no understanding with Rattazzi; there will perhaps be another *Apronte*, but we cannot recede—the 'old man' (Garibaldi) is decided." The "old man" is still at Vinci, in a patriot's pretty villa.

A MAN is now lying in the St. Jean Hospital, Turin, in a complete state of lethargy. He is quite insensible to pricks from needles, and the soles of his feet are also without feeling. Some shocks of electricity have alone produced an effect on him. He is twenty-four years of age, and for the last forty-seven days has lived on milk passed through his nose into the oesophagus.

THE reign of terror is about to commence in Mexico, the Indians of the Sierra-Madre desire to avenge their Mejia. This may give rise to a war of caste, and prepare the way for the Americans. In any case, it is very probable that Juarez, Escobedo, and the others will pay with their lives the execution of Maximilian and his generals.

THE cholera continues severe in Rome; nevertheless, in spite of the oppressive heat, the deaths do not exceed twenty-five daily. The Pope had intended to pass the summer at Castel-Gandolfo, but the persistence of the epidemic induces him to remain in the city, where his presence constitutes a kind of moral support to the inhabitants.

THE impression in Paris that the relations of France with Prussia are far from satisfactory, has not been removed by the explanations and denials in the *Moniteur*. The continuance of military preparations keeps up the alarm, and the public, says a correspondent, refuse to believe that, with the finances in their present state, the Government would be spending such enormous sums in war stores merely for the sake of keeping at peace with its neighbours.

THE directors of the Baden railways have set a good example in the way of improvement. All the carriages of every class are to be furnished with heating apparatus in winter; a great boon to the third-class passengers. Hitherto only first and second-class carriages had been so provided. In France, first-class carriages are alone supplied with hot-water cylinders for the feet. In England, the first step has yet to be taken in that direction.

EXCAVATIONS at Lillebonne continue, and nearly every day some new discovery is made. The collection brought together at Caillon now comprises a great number of objects of real archaeological value. Among them is the fragment of a circular mirror, an examination of which shows it to be composed of glass, foliated with a thin sheet of pure lead. Thus it seems that the Gallo-Romans practised the plating of glass, as the Gauls had previously known how to plate metals.

A TELEGRAM in anticipation of the incoming Indian mails, states that the distress is increasing in Orissa, and that large numbers of persons were resorting to the relief centres.—The cholera in the North-western provinces of the Punjab had nearly disappeared.—A train on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway has been precipitated into the Suttee river, and thirteen persons are said to be killed and twenty injured.—The public health of Calcutta and Bombay was good, and the weather cool.

THE SHELTONIAN THEATRE.—Several of the series of the grim old heads round the enclosure of the Sheldonian Theatre, and four others in front of the Ashmolean Museum, at Oxford, having become greatly decayed, were removed some months ago; and the remainder are following them. Although often regarded as busts of the Cæsars—there are thirteen of them—they are, in truth, bacchanalian figures, crowned with ivy, and therefore considered fit decorations of a theatre; and one of them (being a perfect facsimile of the original bust in its undecayed state) has just been replaced, carved by a local artist, as a tentative rather than a specimen of the remainder. The Sheldonian Theatre is not, however, a theatre in the ordinary sense of the word; and it may, therefore, be allowed to us to suggest that these representations of Bacchus and his followers are rather out of place, and that it would be more in accordance with the *genius loci* if well-sculpted busts of the learned men of classical, or even mediæval, times were affixed in their stead.

THE BLOOD, THE BLOOD.—When the blood is impure the whole body suffers. Then come indigestion, lowness of spirits, loss of flesh, nervousness, and a general feeling of discomfort. A course of "THE BLOOD PURIFIER," Old Dr. JACOB TOWNSEND'S SASSAPARILLA acts specifically on the blood, purifying it of all vitiated humours. The digestion becomes easy, the spirits buoyant, the body regains its strength, and the mind its tranquillity. Sold by all druggists. Chief Depot, 131, Fleet-street. *Caution!—Get the red and blue wrappers with the Old Doctor's head in the centre; no other genuine.*—[ADVT.]

THE Diastatized Organic Iron and the Diastatized Organic Iodine are now fully appreciated by the English public as a pleasant and efficient mode of taking iron and iodine. Unhoped-for cures have been effected in a number of cases, in which the other preparations of iron or iodine have been found incapable of being supported by the patients. Thanks and testimonials are received every day from all parts. In fact, these medicines, under their pleasant form, are found the most efficient.—Sold by all chemists, 2s. 9d. per bottle. Take note of Dr. Victor Baud's signature on the Government stamp, without which none are genuine.—[ADVT.]

METROPOLITAN.

THE Promenade Concerts at Covent Garden Theatre are to commence on the 15th of this month.

THE Lord Mayor has determined to apportion the £2,500, the gift of the Sultan, among such of the humane institutions as deal more immediately with the homeless and destitute poor, rather than attempt to distribute it himself among individuals.

NUMEROUS complaints are being made by the inhabitants of Peckham, Nunhead, Dulwich, and Brixton of the inefficiency of the police. Scarcely a night passes but some house is broken into and robbed, the thieves of course escaping with their booty.

THE church of St. Mary-le Strand is about to be seated with open benches, which will be free and unappropriated. Mr. H. Trelawny Boodle, of 4, Palace-gardens-terrace, W., will be glad to receive contributions.

CONSERVATIVE graduates of the University of London are asked to refrain from promising their votes to either of the gentlemen at present before the constituency, as it is understood that a candidate in the interests of the Conservative party will come forward in due time.

LAST week Mr. Hankey drew attention to the meeting which had been held by Mr. Beales and other "strangers" in the tea-room of the House of Commons, in regard to the Parks Bill. The Speaker ruled that such a meeting attended by persons not members of the House was decidedly out of order; he added, however, that the gentlemen who had offended in this respect had apologized.

ONE of those extensive and destructive fires which happen so frequently in the business districts of London took place on Friday night at Rotherhithe. The site of the conflagration was a paraffin refinery, and, as might be expected from the inflammable nature of the stock, the destruction of property was enormous. No loss of life is reported, but three firemen were seriously injured by the explosion of one of the vats.

THERE is to be a thorough investigation into the whole main drainage scheme, the great storm of last Friday having proved it to be a failure so far as carrying off a heavy rainfall is concerned. On the south side, houses and streets were inundated in a most property-destroying manner—and that because the drains could not carry off the water fast enough.

ON Monday an inquest was held in Cannon-street-road, on the body of Mr. William Essen, aged fifty-one years, landlord of the Kinders Arms. On Friday last the deceased, who was in difficulties, was found dead on the floor of his room. Death was the result of a dose of bitter almonds. The jury returned a verdict of "Suicide while in a state of Temporary Insanity."

ON Monday, at the Manchester Assizes, John Mackie was charged with having attempted to murder his wife at Bolton on the 5th of April. The wife left the prisoner in consequence of his ill-treatment of her, and on the day in question he met her in a public-house and cut her throat in three places. The prisoner was found guilty and sentenced to twelve years' penal servitude.

ONE hundred and forty of the workmen employed by Messrs. Broadwood, pianoforte manufacturers, left London on Tuesday, on a visit to the Paris Exhibition under the auspices of the Paris Excursion Committee. The arrangements of the party are most complete, and it is anticipated that there will be ample opportunity afforded to those composing it of fraternizing with their Gallic fellow workmen. The excursionists intend holding a grand dinner at their quarters in Paris.

ON Saturday an inquest was held in Church-street, Mile-end New Town, on the body of a woman, name unknown, aged about forty years. On last Wednesday morning the deceased was found lying on the pavement in Leman-street in an insensible condition. She died at the Whitechapel Workhouse a few hours afterwards. At first it was supposed that the case was one arising out of excessive drinking; but a post mortem examination of the body showed that the death was the result of fearful injuries to the head and other parts of the body, most of which injuries could not have been self-inflicted. The jury returned an open verdict.

An inquest was held on Saturday, in Bethnal-green, on Edward Davis, a child of four and a half years old. On the 4th of last month the deceased and his brother were playing in the Old Ford-road, when they were attacked by a large dog, which flew at them and frightened them very much. The brother of the deceased was bitten. The dog was mad, and both children were taken ill. The other boy was in a hopeless state of hydrophobia, but the deceased had died, according to the evidence of the surgeon, from an effusion of serum on the brain brought on by fright. Verdict accordingly.

THE roughs at Wimbledon quietly took possession of the carriage of the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland at the recent interview, and stood up on the cushions, which, some Whig ladies perceiving, they remarked that such was the result of trusting the people, an observation about as profound as that of a lady who had done Goodwood on Thursday and wanted to do the opera the same evening, and having to change carriages at the junction said, "How can any one be so stupid as to want to go to London-bridge? No one lives there." Much the same idea of the people is entertained by Whig ladies whose lords have so much long traded on their credulity.

WHEN the estimate of the British Museum was before the House of Commons on Monday night last, it was stated that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had been so much occupied during the current session of Parliament as to have been unable to give attention to the plans of the new buildings which had been submitted to the trustees but not finally approved of. These new buildings were to be erected at South Kensington for the Natural History Collection. It was added that the whole subject of the separation of the collections, the reason for doing so, the necessity of making adequate provision for them when separated, and their management, must be brought under the notice of the House and be thoroughly investigated. Next session the Chancellor of the Exchequer will state his views on the subject to the House.

AT the Wandsworth Police-court, on Saturday, Richard Roberts, a shoe-maker, was committed for trial, charged with the manslaughter of his wife. In this case Mr. Carter, the coroner, had, from some not very clear reasons, refused to hold an inquest; but on the case being brought before the magistrate an application was made to the Secretary of State for the exhumation and post mortem examination of the body. This having been done Dr. Leslie now stated that the gall bladder was burst and the liver lacerated, either injury being sufficient to cause death. The principal evidence against the accused was his daughter, a child of nine years, who stated that she saw her father strike and kneel upon her mother. Other witnesses testified that he had, at other times, maltreated his wife.

THE annual cottagers' flower show in connection with the St. Matthew's, Denmark-hill, Working Men's Institute, was held on Thursday and Friday, at the girls' school-rooms, Camberwell New-road, when a very good exhibition of variegated geraniums, fuchsias, calceolarias, and other plants was made. Several very beautifully-executed specimens of model gardens were also shown, and the display was further enriched by a collection of tropical and sub-tropical plants of rich foliage. The prizes, which consisted of silver medals, money, &c., were distributed on Saturday by Mr. T. Hughes, M.P., who, in the course of an appropriate address, alluded to the beneficial advantages which resulted from the rearing of flowers; and strongly commended the practice of cultivating home gardens, for which prizes were also awarded.

THE GAME OF "LA CROSSE."

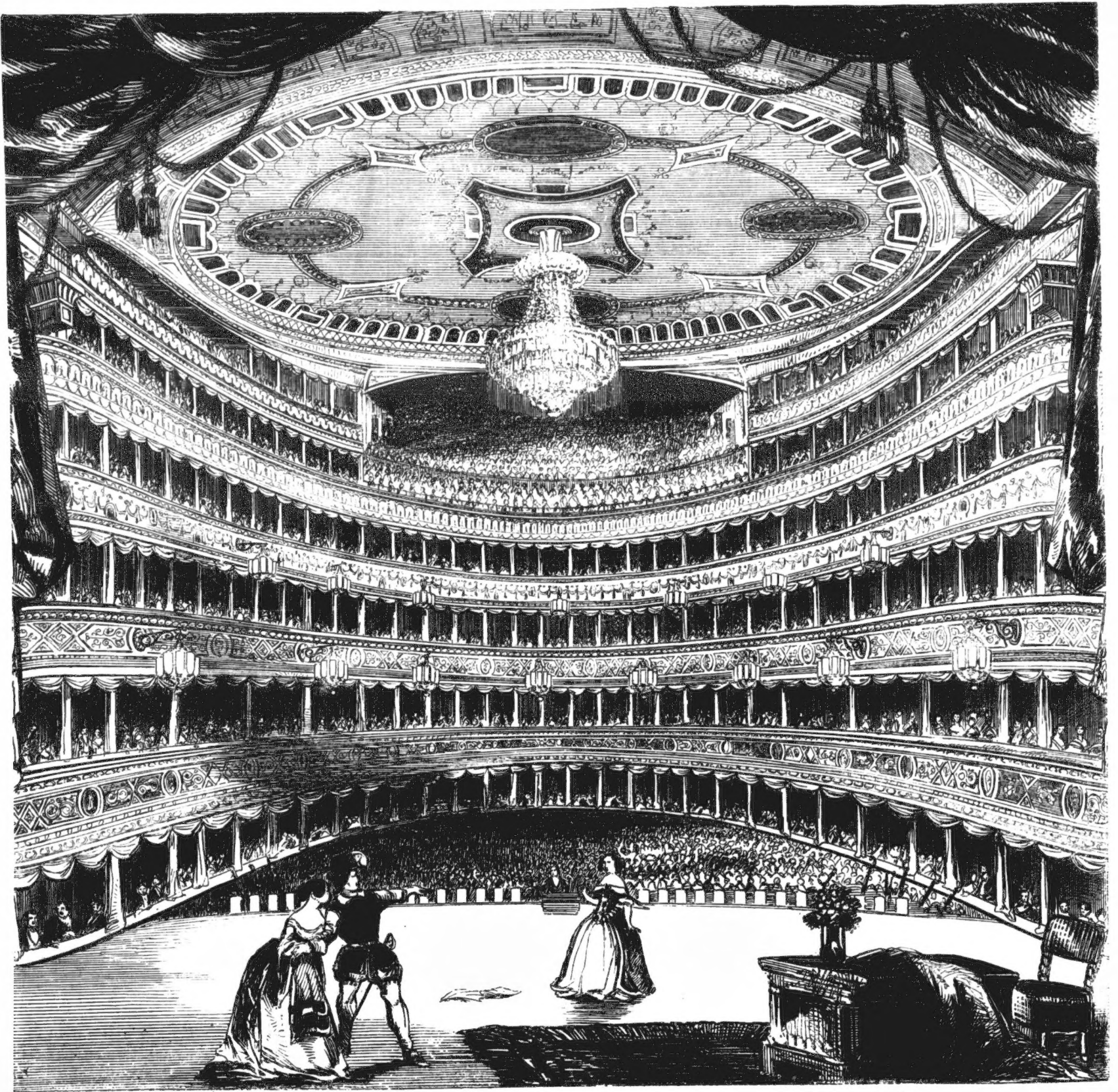
By the kind permission of Lord Ranelagh, a group of eighteen Iroquois Indians were enabled, on Tuesday, to introduce, in the grounds of Beaufort House, Walham-green, for the first time in this country, a national game of Canada, called "La Crosse." A bare mention of the character of the game will immediately show that Lord Ranelagh's extensive grounds are remarkably well adapted to such exercise as it involves. The "crosse" is an instrument somewhat resembling a racquet bat. It is composed of hickory wood, having a long handle at one end, and at the other a curve, or loop, which is filled up by a network of catgut or whip cord. The length of the handle and the construction of the frame enable the player to exercise full control over the ball, and to lift it from the ground with a facility which could not be achieved by means of any other instrument used at games with the ball. The ball in this case is made of indiarubber, and is not less than eight inches, and not more than nine, in circumference. By one of the rules which govern the game players are forbidden

ASTON HALL, BIRMINGHAM.

The history of this magnificent hall, a large engraving of which appears on page 424, has already been given on more than one occasion in the columns of this journal. We need only say, then, that it is the property of the people of Birmingham, and purchased by them from their hard-earned savings. Here, more particularly at the present time, the mechanic and his wife finds recreation and enjoyment after the labours of the day. The park is extensive and beautifully laid out. Fêtes of all kinds are continually taking place here, and not for double its cost would the people of Birmingham be deprived of their hall and its grounds. The purchase of it may be well recorded as one of the greatest and most beneficent works ever achieved by the working classes of this country.

THE SULTAN'S RETURN.

A CORRESPONDENT at Constantinople sends us the following in a letter dated July 26:—"The exact date of the Sultan's return, or the exact route by which he will come after leaving Vienna, is still uncertain. His Majesty, on reaching Routschuk, will, it is expected, proceed to Schumla, where he will review the *corps d'armee*, the head-quarters of which is stationed there. If he does not proceed by rail to Varna he will go on to Adrianople, and arrive here by Rodosto. Should the Sultan take the latter route, he will have an opportunity of comparing the wretched road that traverses this part of his empire with the very different state of things existing in Western Europe. The preparations for the Sultan's reception are being carried out on an unexampled scale. The illuminations promise to be very effective. The purchase of oil and other lamps this week has been immense, and so great has been the demand for candles that the price has advanced nearly twenty per cent.—The telegraphic intelligence of



INTERIOR OF HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

to catch, or to throw, or to pick up this ball with the hand; but they are permitted to lift it from a hole, or from any other spot which is inaccessible to the crosse, and to block or pat it in order to protect the face or body. Under any other circumstances it must not be touched, except with the crosse, which instrument, though somewhat heavy, is wielded by these Iroquois Indians with surprising agility and dexterity; and it is interesting to observe the amount of physical exertion they are able to undergo in their endeavour to attain the goal. This goal is formed by two flagpoles, seven feet apart, and the duty of "keeping" it is an important feature in the game. Besides the goal-keeper there are various fixed places for the players, called respectively "point," "cover-point," "centre," "home," and "fielders"—terms which have doubtless been translated into English by a well-skilled cricketer. Nevertheless the game partakes more of the character of hockey or football than of cricket. The picturesque dresses of the players on the present occasion naturally contributed to the general effect of the game; but, irrespective of this consideration, it may be said that "La Crosse" (which is now about to be played in different parts of the country) will doubtless speedily find favour at our large schools.

ISMAIL PASHA.

DR. ALTCHUL, formerly tutor of the Viceroy of Egypt, makes the following statement:—

"SIR,—It is a great mistake to suppose that his Highness Ismail Pasha does not understand any other language than Arabic and Persian, because he has spoken in his mother tongue at the Mansion House and elsewhere.

"Among all the illustrious pupils whom I have had the honour of teaching, not one has been more gifted by nature with talents beyond the common, and none of them had a more marked aptitude for languages than Prince Ismail Bey.

"As the Prince's first European tutor, I beg leave to assure you that more than twenty years ago, during the lifetime of his gallant father, Ibrahim Pasha, such had been the assiduity of his Highness in his studies that he was already able to express himself with ease in French and other languages, and since that time he has greatly improved.

"Had the Viceroy been less modest, he might have addressed his audience very satisfactorily in a European language, without the assistance of his Excellency Nubar Pasha or any other equally able interpreter.—I am, Sir, &c., "D. H. ALTCHUL."

Omar Pasha's success at Sphakia has had a very depressing effect on the Greeks of this city. Subsequent tidings, however, having made it appear that the advantages gained by the Sirdar Ekram were not quite so extensive as officially announced by the Porte, the drooping hopes of the Greeks have revived a little. Yesterday evening a kind of demonstration took place at the promenade of the Petit Champ of Pera, when the Greeks gave vent to their feelings by loudly applauding the Greek revolutionary airs, which, by the toleration of the authorities, are regularly played by the band. Notwithstanding this assumed air of confidence, the most sanguine Greeks feel that the struggle has now assumed a very forlorn aspect."—*Full Mall Gazette*.

CAPE WINE.—Writing of the wines of the Cape of Good Hope, Dr. Druitt tells the following story:—"I was sitting at dinner one day next to the late Archdeacon — from the Cape. I asked him the reason of the earthy taste in Cape wine. He replied, 'My dear sir, if you ever had seen the black fellows in the vineyard in vintage time, and how they make the wine, you would think earthy a very mild term indeed to apply to it.'"

ARCHAIC SCULPTURINGS.

If the drawings of these Scottish sculptures are to be relied on, they present us with a sacrificial scene of the iron or bronze period. A warrior, in his double-horsed chariot, is preceded by prisoners who appear to have their hands tied behind their backs, and to be guarded by a person holding a raised sword. Next comes a row, according to Nilsson, of men dressed in flowing priestly costume, and who walk in procession; then come musicians playing on large curved trumpets, preceded by a figure which seems to be dancing, and, beyond him, two men play on a species of double suspended drum or cymbals. Below, the priest-like figures are seen ranged at either side of an object which may be an altar, and below them men with uplifted hands stand ready to execute several victims, whose arms appear to be bound, and who stand in front of certain circular objects—altogether one of the most singular and vivid pictures handed down to us by Scandinavian antiquity. Nilsson takes it to be Phœnician, and the ceremonial to be in honour of Baal. Sir James Simpson regards it as more probably a sacrifice of prisoners by those savage Cimbric women described by Strabo:—"These priestesses, grey-headed women in white linen dresses, unshod, and bearing drawn swords, went to meet the captives, and having crowned them, led them to a brazen vessel containing about twenty amphora, and placed on a raised platform, which one of the priestesses having ascended, and holding the prisoner above the vessel, cut his throat;" and adds that "in 1845, Liech found enclosed in a mound at Peccatel in Mecklenburg, a round cauldron, three feet in diameter and two in depth, placed between what he conceived to be a large altar, on which the victim was placed, and a station which he supposes to have been the position of the sacrificing priest or priestess in such Cimbric rites. The edge of the cauldron projected about a foot above the level of the altar. The skeleton of an unburnt human body lay in a trough or coffin, in the neighbourhood of the cauldron. Both the coffin and the so-called altars and sacrificing station were made of sand mixed and hardened up with clay." Baal, however, had his votaries in Scandinavia as well as in Britain. The Beltane fires—Baldersbad—may be seen lighted up on Midsummer's Eve as far north as the Arctic circle. Leopold von Buch has seen them at the Island of Hindön, in the far north of Norway:—"Mrs. Abbott, of Copenhagen, tells me that on both the Danish and Swedish coasts of the Baltic the Baal-fires may be still seen on the evening of the 23rd of June, lit up in a long line at the distance of about one mile from each other. Tetlan and Temme (Preussische Sag., p. 277) say, that in Prussia and Lithuania, on St. John's Eve, fires are seen as far as the eye can reach. Grimm remarks that, in the celebration of their fire festivals, the northern parts of Germany have adopted Easter Day or May Day, while the more southern parts, as the shores of the Rhine and Austria, with the kingdoms lying between them, hold the 23rd of June as their fire festival; and, again, some parts, like Denmark and Kärnten, keep both days."—*Athenæum*.

PARIS EXHIBITION.—Gentlemen, before starting for the Continent, should go to JONES & CO'S, 73, Long Acre, and purchase one of their Half-Guinea Hats (the Hamilton), new shape, which, for style and durability cannot be equalled. Jones & Co. Manufacturers, 73, Long Acre.—[ADVT.]



THE IMPERIAL MOSQUE AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE IMPERIAL MOSQUE AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE recent visit of the Sultan to England will render our engraving of one of the principal mosques of Constantinople particularly acceptable. The mosques of this famous city have all an open space around them, generally planted with trees, and refreshed by fountains. The principal mosque, St. Sophia, was erected between the years 531 and 537. It is in the form of a Greek cross, 269 feet in length, and 243 feet wide, and surmounted in its centre by a dome, the middle of which is 180 feet above the floor. There are numerous other mosques in Constantinople, and most travellers agree in preferring the mosques of Soliman the Magnificent and Achmet to that of St. Sophia. Many of these edifices were formerly Greek churches, the remainder have been erected mostly by the Turkish Sovereigns, viziers, or wealthy individuals.

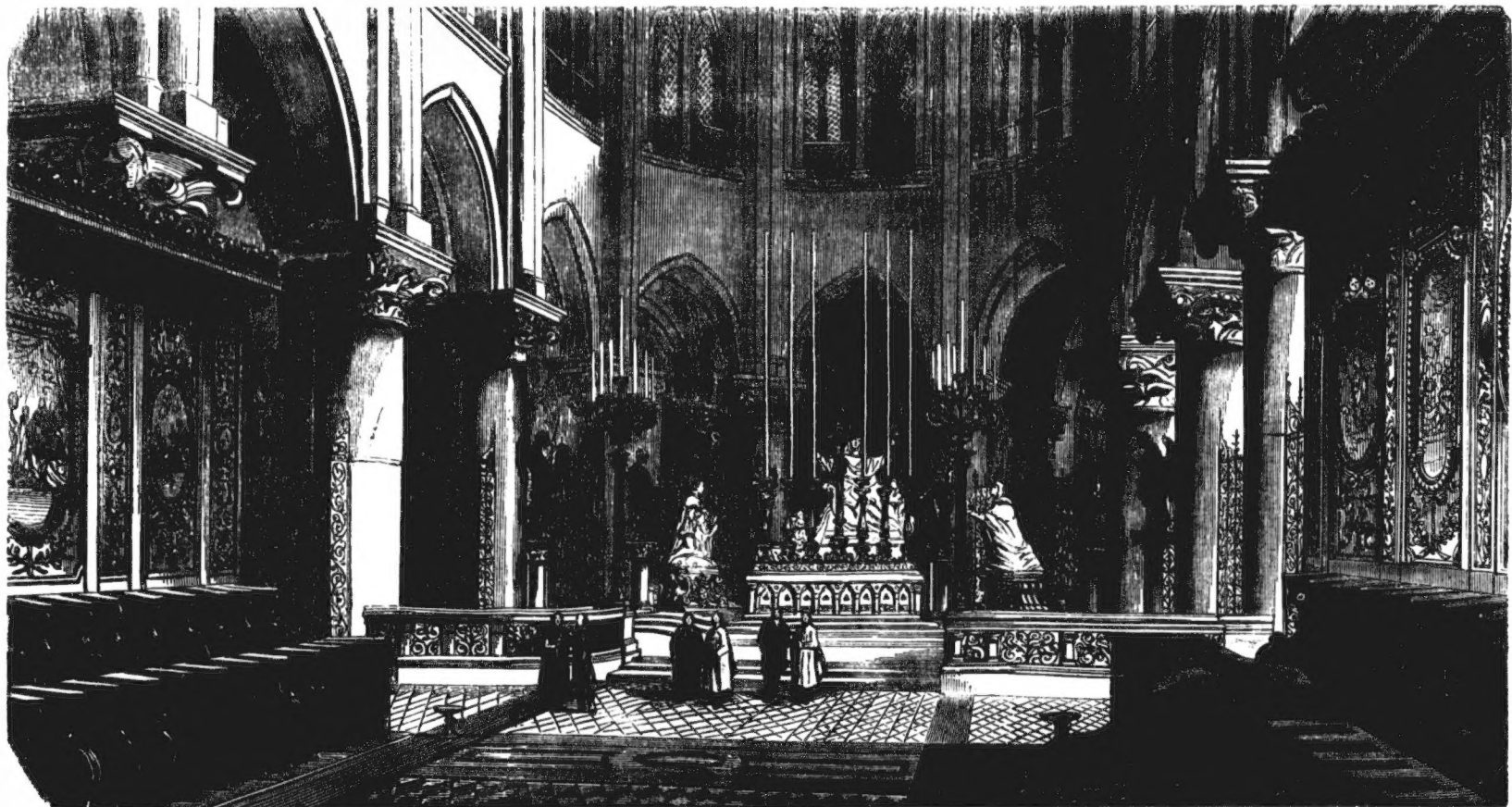
CARDS FOR THE MILLION.—A Copper-Plate Engraved (and style), and Fifty Best Cards Printed, with Card Case included, for 2s. Sent post free by ARTHUR GRANGER, the noted Cheap Stationer, 308, High Holborn, and the New Borough Bazaar, 95, S.E.—[ADVT.]

In consequence of the Reduction in Duty, Horniman's Teas are now supplied by the Agents, Eight-pence per lb. cheaper. Every Genuine Packet is signed "Horniman and Co."—[ADVT.]

RUSSIAN TEA-HOUSES.

THE tea-houses of Russia are quite as characteristic a feature in the manners and customs of that country as those of Japan. Mr. Lumley, her Majesty's Secretary of Embassy at St. Petersburg, states in a recent report that in the capital alone there are 657 common tea-shops, besides the cafés and restaurants of a superior description; the daily consumption of tea at some of these places being from 80 to 100 lb. They are the resort of the droshky drivers, carters, and labourers of every description; and it is not without interest to witness the orderly behaviour and polite demeanour of these poor peasants. As they enter the long room in which the tea is served, each man greets the barkeeper, and, as he passes the sacred image, which is to be found in every Russian room, and before which a lamp is always burning, he reverently doffs his cap, and while in the room all remain uncovered. Numerous tables are ranged along the apartment, at each of which may be seen groups of six or eight sturdy moujiks wrapped in their sheepskin pelisses, which are worn with the fleece inwards, and which, no matter what the heat of the room, are seldom taken off or even opened. A large teapot of boiling water, and a smaller one containing an allowance of tea for each man, are placed on the table; a plateful of small squares of black bread, a saucer of still smaller lumps of sugar cut like dice, one for each man, and a glass of corn brandy constitute the repast. Both teapots are generally replenished as soon as the larger is emptied, but occasionally the larger one alone is refilled, and the liquid becomes tea only in name. The tea is drunk out of saucers, and the sugar is not put into the tea but held in the mouth; some poor fellows who are still more economical will put a piece of black bread in the saucer, place a lump of sugar on the bread, pour in the tea, and after drinking two or three cups in this way, wrap the slightly diminished piece of sugar in paper and carry it away with them. Time seems to be no object to the tea-drinkers, and at a sitting many will take six or eight, and even more cups of tea before turning the cup down in the saucer as the sign they have had enough. The effect of the atmosphere heated by stoves to 75 deg. or 80 deg. of Fahrenheit, in a low room from which the air is carefully excluded by double windows, combined with these numerous cups of hot tea, on a body wrapped in a sheepskin pelisse, may be easily conceived. The tea-drinker, while imbibing his favourite beverage, is literally taking a modified vapour bath; some men will go on steadily drinking until they have reached a condition which is denoted by term "Pey do tretiovo pota," to drink to the third degree or expression of transpiration, after which they will sally forth into a temperature of perhaps twenty degrees below the freezing point, and throwing themselves on their sledges, fall asleep enveloped in steam, having thus imbibed, and this no doubt intentionally, a sufficient amount of caloric to last them to the next halt, where a repetition of the tea-drinking takes place on the same scale and with the same effect.

JUST OUT, STEAM ENGINES (Patent), price 1s. 6d. each, of horizontal construction, manufactured entirely of metal fitted with copper boiler, steam pipe, furnace, &c., complete. Will work for hours if supplied with water and fuel. Sent carriage free, safely packed in wooden case, for 24 stamps.—TAYLOR BROTHERS, 21 Norfolk-road, Essex-road, Islington, London. Established 1859.—[ADVT.]



THE SANCTUARY OF NOTRE DAME.

THE SIGHTS OF LONDON.
THEATRES.

DRURY LANE.—That Rascal Jack—(At Eight) The Great City.
SEVEN.
HAYMARKET.—The Love Chase—To Paris and Back for Five Pounds—The Rifle and How to Use It. SEVEN.
ADELPHI.—Garibaldi in Sicily—(At Eight) The Lady of Lyons—A Slice of Luck. SEVEN.
PRINCESS'S.—The Day After the Wedding—(At Eight) The Man o' Airie—The Clockmaker's Hat. Half-past Seven.
OLYMPIC.—Six Months Ago—The Liar—Cool as a Cucumber—The Cricket. SEVEN.
STRAND.—Reveries—The Latest Edition of Fra Diavolo. Half-past Seven.
NEW ROYALTY.—Meg's Diversion—(At Half-past Nine) The Latest Edition of Black Eyed Susan—Mrs. White. Half-past Seven.
BRITANNIA.—Scarlet Dick; or, The Road and its Riders—Jack o' Lantern; or, The Race-course and the Blue Ribbon of the Turf. Quarter to Seven.
ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE AND CIRCUS.—A Comic Ballet—(At Eight) Scenes in the Arena. Quarter to Nine.—The Kings of the Carpet—Fillis's Fire Horse—Airc's Trapeze Act.

1.—FREE.

British Museum; Chelsea Hospital; Courts of Law and Justice; Docks; Dulwich Gallery; East India Museum, Fife House, Whitehall; Greenwich Hospital; Hampton Court Palace; Houses of Parliament; Kew Botanic Gardens and Pleasure Grounds; Museum of Economic Geology, Jermyn-street; National Gallery; National Portrait Gallery; Patent Museum, adjoining the South Kensington Museum; Soane's Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Society of Arts' Exhibitions of Inventions (in the spring of every year); St. Paul's Cathedral; Westminster Abbey; Westminster Hall; Windsor Castle; Woolwich Dockyard and Repository.

2.—PAYMENT REQUIRED.

Crystal Palace, Sydenham; Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly; Gallery of Illustration, Regent-street; Royal Academy; British Institution; Society of British Artists; Water Colour Societies; Polytechnic Institution, Regent-street; Thames Tunnel; Tussaud's Waxwork, Baker-street Bazaar; Zoological Gardens.

3.—BY INTRODUCTION.

Antiquarian Society's Museum, Somerset House; Armourers' Museum, St. Coleman-street; Asiatic Society's Museum, 8, New Burlington-street; Bank of England Museum (collection of coins); Botanical Society's Gardens and Museum, Regent's-park; College of Surgeons' Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Guildhall Museum (old London antiquities); Linnean Society's Museum, Burlington House; Mint (process of coining), Tower-hill; Naval Museum, South Kensington; Royal Institution Museum, Albemarle-street; Trinity House Museum, Tower-hill; United Service Museum, Scotland-yard; Woolwich Arsenal.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

(All letters to be addressed to the Editor, 13, Catherine-street, Strand.)

The Illustrated Weekly News.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1867.

(REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.)

THE ABYSSINIAN CAPTIVES.

If anything is to be done to liberate our countrymen who are held in irksome and perilous captivity by King Theodore, now is the time to take action. We should be the last to recommend a course which would plunge the country into a disastrous foreign war, in which the lives of many men would probably be sacrificed in fighting against barbarians for the rescue of a few. Nevertheless, we have to vindicate a grand principle. The words *civis Romanus sum* had a talismanic effect in days of old. Why should the name "Englishman" have less virtue in it than "Roman"? We must, for our honour's sake, make an effort to save the lives of our brave countrymen, and avenge the outraged honour of a great nation. The matter has come to this point. During nearly three years these Englishmen have been in prison, and in chains. Diplomacy, remonstrance, conciliation, missions, presents, letters from the Queen, have been set at work to procure their liberation, but all in vain. Peaceful measures seem thrown away upon this insolent tyrant, who seems to think that the more Englishmen he gets into his clutches, the better he secures our respect and extorts our favours.

It is pretty generally agreed on all hands that if another diplomatic effort is to be tried, it should be backed this time by menaces rather than by promises. The negotiator should be able to point eastward to a fleet and an army being made ready to enforce by arms what he for the last time was preferring peacefully. To such a request those who know him best consider it highly probable that Theodore would yield. He is already hardly pressed by his enemies, and it is thought that he is too prudent to run the risk of inviting into the field a nation so much mightier than all of them put together. For this is what it must come to. Though we trust we may not have to carry it out, we must lay our plans for the invasion of Abyssinia, and sketch out a campaign in which to bring King Theodore to terms.

We are accustomed to hear it said that no nation in the world is beyond the reach of our power. This expedition into Abyssinia will put this boast to as severe a test as it has ever undergone. It is very difficult to get at King Theodore, though the difficulties in our way are more geographical than climatic. The climate, it is true, is not the best in the world, and in some districts between Gondar and the coast it is described as abominable. It is generally agreed that the later part of autumn is the time for a campaign. Sir William Baker who ought to be an authority on this question, says:—"Acting from the Egyptian frontier with either Indian or Egyptian troops, Theodore could be surrounded in a few weeks. Mr. Rassam and Dr. Blanc had the short experience of a miserable journey from that most miserable spot Massowah to Cassala, and from thence to Metemma or Gallabat. They took the wrong road,

a route that no Egyptian official would think of adopting, as the regular caravan route is from Souakim direct to Cassala, a distance of 270 miles, eight days' journey for a dromedary, fourteen for a strong loaded camel, and twenty as a maximum for troops with many impedimenta. We must not forget the advantages of Souakim, and the disadvantages of the Abyssinian coast, as a base for military operations. Supplies and means of transport are the soul and sinews of an army. Should the Viceroy of Egypt issue an order, in three weeks 10,000 camels could be collected at Souakim; relays of these animals would also be gathered at Cassala; therefore, not only would the immediate means of transport be ensured upon the landing of troops at Souakim, but the advance would be through the territory of an ally; the base of operations will be the frontier of Egypt; therefore no necessity will exist for keeping open a communication with the rear by detachments of troops that should be offensively employed. Cassala is not unhealthy from November until the end of May. Let us now turn to the advantages that would attend any operations proposed from the Abyssinian coast of the Red Sea. The landing and the entire line of advance would be through an enemy's country, in which strong detachments would be necessary to keep open the communication with the base. On the first appearance of foreign troops, the Abyssinians would drive their flocks and herds into the interior; there would remain neither supplies nor means of transport. Miles must be traversed without a drop of water, throughout which arid country no animal but the camel will be servicable. Where are the camels? When King Theodore hears that a British force has invaded from the Red Sea, he will retreat far into the mountains of the Galla country, with the captives; in which case, how are they to be liberated? If he and they are to be captured, they must be surrounded and the retreat cut off by judicious and simultaneous movements; but the Egyptian frontier must be our base of operations if this is to be promptly effected. Should a force be landed on the Abyssinian coast, it must remain as a mere demonstration, and will in a few weeks be thoroughly baked and invalidated without a possibility of advancing to the interior. Simple maps are of little use when planning operations in Abyssinia; the shortest distance may be impracticable for an army. If we start from Souakim, for Magdala, we shall be in the territory of an ally which every facility until within four days' journey of Magdala. As a question of advance, there is no route like that of Souakim, which is not only the route adopted by the Egyptians, but is the route for transporting tame young elephants and other wild animals for the menageries of Europe, that require the most gentle driving, and can hardly be delivered at any other port on the Red Sea or in Lower Egypt, on account of the difficulties of the march. There cannot be a stronger proof of the facility of that route. Sickness, delay, and disaster, will inevitably follow should we attempt to lead an army from the Abyssinian coast of the Red Sea into the interior. The most precious time will be wasted in seeking the means of transport; the King and his troops will rapidly fall back as we slowly advance, until the rainy season will set in, and the expedition will terminate in mud, mosquitoes, and fever." With such an opinion expressed by a practical man, it would appear that there ought to be little hesitation about the route to be taken, but we must remember that it could only be chosen, in the case of Suez being a base of operations, and in the supposition of that close alliance with Egypt which we are compelled to regard as most impolitic, if not dangerous to our cause. While the voyage from Aden to Tajura occupies but two days, and from Aden to Massowah scarcely more than four days, it would take a transport nearly five days to sail from Suez to Souakim, and from thence to the nearest point of the Abyssinian frontier it is a twenty days' march. When the army from Souakim had reached the frontier of the enemy's country, and that at a part reputed most unhealthy, one that had started at the same time from Massowah would be already at Gondar, which it could have reached by a journey through a comparatively salubrious country. However, something must be done to alleviate the awful misery and suspense of the wretched captives, one of whom, Mr. Prideaux, has recently said in a letter written by him:—"King Theodore having declined to accede to the request contained in Her Majesty's letter of the 4th October last—namely, that he should release us on its receipt, when he would be at liberty to accept the presents destined for him, there seems to be no alternative but that the most vigorous measures should be taken to compel him to do so. For these we are all prepared. Anything is preferable to a prolonged existence in chains in an African prison. It must now be evident to every one that kindness is thrown away on our host. No one has ever received such undeserved favours from the most powerful Government as he has, and the only result has been an increase to his cupidity, and a determination to resist to the utmost any concession in return so long as he holds such material guarantees as he considers us to be in his hands. He must now be undeceived. We all feel confident that Government also takes this view of the matter, and although, as regards ourselves, the result may be uncertain, yet we shall have the satisfaction of knowing that the cause of civilization and humanity will gain, and that Europeans will no longer be at the mercy of the first African chief who may seek to use them as the instruments of personal aggrandizement." This in effect means that death would be preferable to a prolonged imprisonment, and the Government would really seem to have no option, if they wish to retain British prestige in the East, but to despatch an expedition against Theodore before the rainy season commences.

PUBLIC OPINION.

TROUBLES ABROAD.

WHEN upon the judicious intervention of Lord Stanley, the Luxembourg difficulty was settled in a way which brought little loss or discredit upon either party, there was an end of our apprehensions that Europe would again be devastated by a war of ambition or for balance of power. General opinion is not so often right as to deserve much consideration; but most men will confess now that when the Luxembourg treaty was signed, and the immediate prospect of war was obliterated by the signatories of France and Prussia, their apprehensions were lost in the universal belief that all danger was over. For our own part, we confess we have no pretences, in this case, to vision keener or to wisdom deeper than the general. Sharing the common notion that the immediate danger lay in the wounded pride of France, and knowing that wounds of that sort smart most at the beginning, we trusted with the rest of the world that the signing of the Luxembourg treaty denoted a decline of irritation where alone it was formidable. If general opinion is now right, and the apprehensions of the best instructed and most cautious journalism all over Europe are well founded, that trust was mistaken, and France has suffered since Sadova under something far more serious than wounded pride—namely, a rankling, intixed, intolerable dread that if Prussia is left to carry out her devices in peace, a few years, one or two, will see her mistress of continental Europe, and France permanently degraded from her high estate. Nor, indeed, is that a prospect which lives in the imagination of Frenchmen alone. Unless the successes of Prussia are far less stable than they seem, and the gravitation of all Germany into the scope of her influence is far less determinate than it appears, the most disinterested speculation must coincide in some degree with the fears of France herself. Every day shows more clearly that Count Bismarck's patriotic plans have no limit exclusive of any village with German men and German money in it—that they are meant to constitute one great empire of all the race; and moreover that those plans are now in a fair way of working their own accomplishment, rapidly and without much further effort of statesmanship. And there can be no doubt that the consolidation of such an empire—the people soldierly, orderly, industrious, and patriotic alike—would seriously imperil the superiority of France, and leave her no longer so sublimely free to choose between peace and war at will. And if this seems so to us, who are capable of regarding the prospect undisturbed by imperilled power or prestige, how much more formidable must it appear to Frenchmen? With their exceeding sensitiveness to all that jeopardizes their prestige, with their consciousness that their high position in Europe depends entirely upon their military superiority over all surrounding nations, we can well believe those to be right who declare that France is impatient to break up the power which already casts a shadow on her greatness. And as to the Emperor himself, he not only shares the impatience of the nation probably, but he has particular reasons for uneasiness under the growing power and audacity of Prussia. —*Fall Mall Gazette*.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE MONEY MARKET.

There is in the general situation of European politics much to make the continuance of peace probable. The Emperor of the French may be believed when he declares that he does not want war, for war would make him exchange a position of easy comfort for a position of difficulty and hazard. He is also capable of taking large views of politics, and probably there is no one in France who surpasses him in the power of looking at the consolidation of Germany from a German point of view. Count Bismarck has also enough on his hands to employ him. France, again, must see in the present position of Italian affairs a strong reason for preserving peace. So long as peace endures, small difficulties of this sort may be surmounted; but if war once broke out nothing could prevent the Italians from seizing on Rome. It is true, that to preserve the temporal power and to take vengeance on Italy, Austria might possibly be willing to side with France; but if we are to pursue speculation into such remote possibilities we must go on to say that Russia would probably see in an alliance with Prussia the best means of having her own way in the East. A general European war might easily arise out of a quarrel between Prussia and France, but then this probability is of all things that which would make these two Powers least disposed to let loose the waters of strife. But then how does it happen that every one in France and Prussia talks of war, and thinks of war, and prepares for war? The reason is, that the two nations have a longing for war. They may be kept back by prudence and the thought of consequence, and by the caution of their rulers, but they long to fight. The Germans think that the French are trying to meddle in what are purely German affairs, and that it is much better to nip their arrogant pretensions in the bud than to let France dictate what Germany shall and what it shall not do. The French think that the Prussians, by an audacious and tyrannical use of military force, are establishing a power that will certainly rival France, and possibly throw her into the shade. The best chance of peace continuing lies, however, in the very continuance of peace. The mere fact that war does not begin will do something to calm down angry passions, and make the French accustomed to and tolerant of Prussian aggrandizement. If peace can endure for one year more, it may endure for ten. —*Saturday Review*.

FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.

The credulity of the French people is not so capacious as the *Moniteur* assumes; and if it were, the official journal of the Empire would still find it difficult to fill the vigilance of neighbouring States by honeyed words and soft pretensions. The Emperor Napoleon himself probably would rather remain at peace if he can do so without disappointing his army, and without extending the liberties of his subjects; and all the rational and right-thinking portion of the French people desire peace for its own sake, for the sake of civilization, and for the sake of liberty. But our neighbours are not the masters of their own destinies; nor is the Emperor Napoleon so much the mover as the instrument of the forces that sustain his throne. An unemployed and discontented army of twelve hundred thousand men will burst like a shell in the hands of its maker, and must be hurled across the frontier to burn itself out. The Second Empire has to make its choice between war, with all its hazards of glory or defeat, and the final certainty of sinking under the weight of its conquests or its reverse, or the crowning of the edifice with liberty. Until France diarms or recovers her freedom, the peace of Europe will never be worth six months' purchase. —*Daily News*.

THE LORDS AND THE REFORM BILL.

The experience of the session has shown that a Conservative Government can be equally apt at trucking to the House of Commons and fawning the House of Lords. The exaggerated humility of Mr. Disraeli's attitude in the one finds a natural complement in the studied contempt of Lord Derby's demeanour in the other. Lord Derby had no doubt counted the votes beforehand, and he could safely descend to bluster where he was already sure of submission. He has avowedly left the door open to future agitation, and there is, therefore, no denying that he shares with Mr. Disraeli the conviction that the new voters will be of so extremely manageable a sort as to make it safe for him to throw the question into the hands of the new Parliament. There is something almost sublime in this profound faith in the eternity and omnipotence of corruption. —*Chronicle*.

THE LAST DEFEAT OF ROME.

We notice another and a terrible blow which has this week fallen upon the Papacy, a blow which will affect its authority more directly than the series of reverses which have followed the great defeat at Sadowa. Since that battle Venetia has been liberated, and the last hope of regaining power in Italy finally swept away. The Polish Church has been virtually released from Papal authority, the clerical party has been utterly overthrown in Mexico, Church property has been sequestered throughout Italy, and Ultramontaniam has been expelled from the kingdom of Hungary. The Concordat which had been octroyed there while the Hapsburgs were absolute, required the sanction of the Diet, and with the revival of constitutional life it silently disappeared. In less than twelve months the Papacy has lost the control of three great kingdoms, a province nearly as large as a kingdom, and property which in Italy, Mexico, and Poland must be worth at the very least £100,000,000 sterling, and might twenty years hence have been valued at thrice that sum. It is a frightful list of misfortunes, yet it is doubtful whether the whole together will be so bitterly felt in Rome as the decision of the 26th of July, when the Austrian Reichsrath, by a vote of 130 to 24, solemnly decreed that the Concordat should cease to exist. A great and stately kingdom, within which there is no spiritual dissent and can therefore be no spiritual harshness; in which the Church, being invested with all rights, can show herself careless of all privileges; in which bishops, receiving abundantly both of respect and cash, need exact nothing—this is the true Roman ideal and it is fast passing beyond hope.—*Spectator*.

THE PARKS BILL.

The occasions which require or call forth such political demonstrations as those of the past year must always be exceptional and rare. Their importance upon such occasions both as an index of public opinion and a safety-valve for excited feeling can scarcely be over-estimated. Their prohibition can only be justified by conclusive proof of their incompatibility with the existence of political liberty or with the requirements of public order and convenience. The claims of traffic and of recreation deserve to be treated with the greatest respect, but both the business and the pleasure of the metropolis are frequently interfered with on very trivial grounds. A fortnight ago, on the occasion of the Sultan's visit to Guildhall, the most crowded thoroughfares of the City were closed during the two busiest hours of the day. A week before that, in prospect of the abortive military review, the whole of one end of Hyde-park was occupied and disfigured by a scaffolding, on the erection of which a considerable sum of public money was spent. By drawing-rooms, by lord mayor's shows, by processions of volunteers, the streets of London are periodically obstructed. On all such occasions some little sacrifice must be made by the public, and it is unreasonable that what is readily conceded to pleasure-seekers should be persistently refused to politicians. Moreover, the interference with public convenience caused by political demonstrations has been grossly exaggerated. Timid legislation cannot do away with the necessity for occasional demonstrations, or repress all expression of opinion by assembled numbers; and even if such a measure as is now before Parliament could be enforced without danger to the public peace, the result would be that the processions, shut out from the parks, their natural meeting-place, would be forced to congregate in and obstruct the streets, to the much greater annoyance of the general public.—*Chronicle*.

THE BIRKBECK SOCIETY.

We have received the sixteenth annual report of the Birkbeck Permanent Benefit Building Society and Provident Investment Fund. It appears that the gross receipts during the period over which the consulting actuary's report extends are nearly three times the total amount actually received during the first thirteen years, and upwards of £100,000 beyond those of the fiftieth year. The undivided accumulated profits, after providing for all contingencies, amount to £25,490 16s. 1d. which equals a bonus of nearly sixty-six per cent. upon the total amount due to the shareholders. On reference to the actuary's report we find that during the last three years the profits realized are nearly three times the amount of the total profits of the first thirteen years. Notwithstanding the fearful panic and commercial crisis which took place at the commencement of the past year, the directors say that they are gratified in being able to conclude a report which they feel will be regarded as eminently satisfactory and encouraging—the unimportant influence of the panic on the surplus profits of the society has at least served to show how full and elastic are its resources. The effect of the panic, indeed, has been to this society most beneficial, inasmuch as confidence has been greatly increased by the prompt and ready manner in which all demands were met. The public begin to discover the difference between companies dealing in problematical securities and such societies as the Birkbeck, whose funds are invested solely on freehold and leasehold security.

AN IRISH ELECTION.—Lord Cloncurry in the House of Lords gave some curious experiences of an Irish election. At a Limerick election the leader of one of the parties stood in the polling-booth, and by a nod indicated the electors who were to be punished for contumacy in disobeying his commands. As each of the condemned men left the booth, one of the agent's followers marked a cross with chalk on the back of his frieze coat, as a signal to the mob outside to waylay and beat him. Lord Cloncurry verified this in the case of an old man who was marked and whom he found a few minutes afterwards in the clutches of a stalwart coal-porter, who was pounding him on the kerb-stone. Lord Cloncurry went to the old man's rescue, and a fight ensued between his lordship and the porter, in which the former vindicated, we are told, the great principle that "every man is a policeman when the peace is broken." Lord de Ros also noticed a characteristic distinction between English and Irish elections. In England the first thing done by way of preparation for an election is to order all troops to withdraw from the place. In Ireland, on the contrary, the first preliminary is to call in every soldier that can be got, not to aid the civil law, because there is no such thing as civil law at an Irish election, but to replace it.

PARIS GOSSIP.—The Prussian journals regard with marked ill-humour the projected voyage of the French Emperor to Salzburg, and it is thought that this visit will lead to a violent demonstration on the part of the North German press.—It is remarked that General Cugia, Italian War Minister, has set out for Prussia, and that Garibaldi also intends to drink the German waters.—It is now considered beyond doubt that M. Dano, French Minister in Mexico, has been detained by Juarez, who is said to claim all the money taken from Mexico by the French. Juarez has kept those copies of the *Moniteur* in which these sums were recorded, and being too polite to doubt the accuracy of the official figures, simply demands the total. It is feared that M. Eloi, the late Emperor's secretary, has not succeeded in making good his escape.—The Paris papers publish the terms of the Russian loan, and at the same time talk of a Prusso-Russian alliance as having been concluded under the auspices of the Grand Duke Vladimir.—The King of Sweden has arrived in Paris and is staying at the Elysée Palace.—A meeting of the Isthmus of Suez Canal Company has been held, and after some slight opposition it was agreed to raise another £100,000,000. An irritable shareholder, complaining of the manner in which previous sums had been squandered, said that they had not even the satisfaction of being able to say that their money had been "jeté dans l'eau." The Emperor, the day before the meeting, wrote a flattering letter to M. de Lesseps, in which he hoped that the works would be pushed on with activity.

THE REFORM MEETING IN HYDE PARK.

This meeting to protest against the Government Parks Regulation Bill was held on Monday evening. At six o'clock there were very few more than the usual number of saunterers in the park, but from this hour they increased pretty rapidly, and a little before seven there were several thousands; many of these were women, and there was the usual sprinkling of boys. Every one seemed astonished at the small muster, but supposed that an immense body would arrive with the processions. In the meantime they sauntered about or gathered in little knots round the ballad singers, who sold collections of poetry which was sung at the meeting at the Agricultural Hall. A little before seven o'clock the view from the top of the Marble Arch was very picturesque, the park being thickly dotted with people, gathered here and there in little groups, but, except in these places, nowhere thick enough to hide the grass, which is unusually fresh and green for the time of year. At exactly seven a procession was to be seen coming down Cumberland-street. Hardly a policeman was visible, nor was there any occasion for their presence, as a great portion of those present were mere spectators, who had come in from curiosity, and the roughs who were present evinced no disposition whatever to make a disturbance. And here it may be said that throughout the whole meeting nothing could have been better than the conduct of every one, and in no case was there the slightest disposition to riot or rough larking. Although a dozen or so policemen were all who appeared in the park, there was a very strong body of both foot and mounted police in the Magazine Barracks, and the enclosure of the Humane Society, as well as at the stations in the neighbourhood. This was, of course, a necessary precaution, but fortunately their presence was not required, and a heavy shower which fell at the termination of the proceedings helped very materially in effecting a speedy clearance of the park. The procession from Trafalgar-square entered the park at a quarter to seven, with flags and banners, together with bands of music. It was difficult to estimate the number as they straggled a good deal, and took up a great deal more room than necessary; those people actually forming part of the procession were accompanied by perhaps as many more who had come in from curiosity. The procession from Holborn and Clerkenwell entered by the Marble Arch at a quarter past seven. They formed a long but very straggling line. The procession was headed by a red flag surmounted by a red cap of liberty. Several similar caps were carried at different points of the line. There were the usual flags which have become familiar to the eyes of Londoners during the past few months—the "Holborn Pioneers," the "Clerkenwell Branch," the "Russell Branch," and the "Bright Branch" of the Reform League. The Cabinet-makers' was the only trade union flag visible. The meeting was addressed from ten platforms by Messrs. Beales, Dickson, &c. The resolutions were of course carried unanimously. A heavy shower began just as the proceedings closed, the flags were furled hastily, and the people dispersed, feeling that, as a public demonstration, they had made a tolerable show. The meeting, though not very numerously attended, was a complete success, and the people are to be congratulated for their orderly behaviour, which was admirable throughout, the best possible argument against the pretended panic scheme of the Government.

BALLOON VIEW OF SUNRISE.

The following is Mr. Coxwell's account of a late ascent:—On July the 31st, at 4.10 a.m., I ascended, in company with Captain Woodgate, from the neighbourhood of East Grinstead, in Sussex, our object being to witness sunrise. My balloon "Express" had descended in that locality on the previous evening, after an ascent from the Crystal Palace, when Captain and Mrs. Woodgate, Miss Valentine Hagart, of Edinburgh, Mr. F. Norris, and Mr. William Woodgate, of Reading, were the occupants of the car, myself, of course, included. The principal features of the evening voyage on Tuesday, were a slow rate of travelling and a manifestation of enjoyment on the part of the ladies. We were more than three hours in going a distance of twenty-five miles. The weather being extremely mild, I anchored my balloon for the night, which was a matter of little or no difficulty. After partaking of refreshment it was decided that two gentlemen should return to Norwood with Mrs. Woodgate and Miss Hagart; and at 4.10 a.m., the morning being cold and cheerless, we ascended from Mr. Dawson's farm: the temperature was as low as 45 deg. Fahrenheit, and the barometer stood at 29.70.

The surrounding country was thickly wooded and picturesque, but a grey morning mist hung over the land, and a stranger to the country would have declared that numerous pieces of water were spread beneath, but this was for the most part an illusion, it being fog hanging over valleys and lowlands, and these lifted a little later, when the aspect of the landscape as well as that of the heavens became changed by the sun bursting forth and drawing up the night vapours in cloud wreaths and rounded forms.

At 4.20 the earth was almost totally eclipsed by a bluish veil of thick mist, which terminated at 3,200 feet elevation. The upper bowl-shaped contour of this cloud-mass was very marked and singular, the rim, over which was the blue sky, formed a perfect circle without the least irregularity of outline; but just beneath the car there was a break, through which hedgerows and houses could be discerned.

This vast basin of vapour had one pervading dark colour until 4.35, when the sun rose over the eastern ridge, and effected such rapid and magic changes as only the glorious King of Day is capable of producing. In my last view of sunrise, witnessed while engaged in aerial pursuits, there were mountainous ranges of clouds grandly lighted up with golden, purple, and orange tints, but this time it was a totally different scene, for when the sun shed his dazzling lustre two-thirds of the cloud-circle appeared deepened with grey, while the eastward portion assumed such pure and spotless grandeur—so white and chaste—so gradually toned throughout a long vista leading to the sun—that our attention was directed for a considerable time to this beautiful appearance, and Captain Woodgate expressed himself surprised and enchanted.

As the sun rose the transformation was indeed extraordinary. The heat rays separated the continuous strata, and it mounted in fantastic shapes, and gave place to cumuli which rolled across the fields as if they brushed the earth in their transit.

The crisp air soon provoked a longing for breakfast. I promised my companions to revisit *terra firma* and re-ascend afterwards at an elevation equal to that of Mont Blanc. Accordingly we cut about for a meadow near Horton station, on the Brighton Railway, and again secured the "Express," while we visited the Railway Hotel for our coffee.

At eight a.m. we resumed our seats and ascended for the third time with the same original supply of Crystal Palace gas.

On each occasion we recorded the temperature of the air as compared with the barometrical readings of Negretti and Zambra's pocket aneroid; and although it may not prove of general interest to occupy much space with these figures, still it is advisable not altogether to omit them.

At 8.3 a.m., after we had risen a thousand feet, the thermometer read 57; at 8.18 we were a mile high, temperature being 30 degrees; at 8.32 the barometer marked 18.40, and Fahrenheit had lowered to 12. The thermometer finally went down to 4, so that we exceeded, probably, three miles in height, which was quite as much as I expected of the balloon after retaining its gas so long a time, and after performing these threefold ascents. The descent occupied half an hour, and we landed at 10.30, near Blitchingley, in Surrey.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

THE BARNES AND MORTLAKE AMATEUR REGATTA.

This regatta, which is one of the most important aquatic events of the season, came off on Saturday. It was, as usual, exceedingly well managed, and gave great satisfaction to the large number of spectators who witnessed it. The Maria Wood barge was moored off the White Hart, and there were two steamers to convey those who wished to accompany the races.

The most important event of the day was the race for the senior fours. Only two boats were entered, and the race was by no means so well contested as had been anticipated. The London four—who were pulling in very different form from that which they exhibited at Walton when beaten by the Oscillators—ran away at the start from the Voltigeurs, and were never caught, winning easily by three lengths. The Londoners pulled in splendid style, while the Voltigeurs, although individually first-rate oars, had not practised sufficiently together, and fell to pieces after the first half-mile, presenting the strangest possible contrast to the beautifully regular rowing of their opponents.

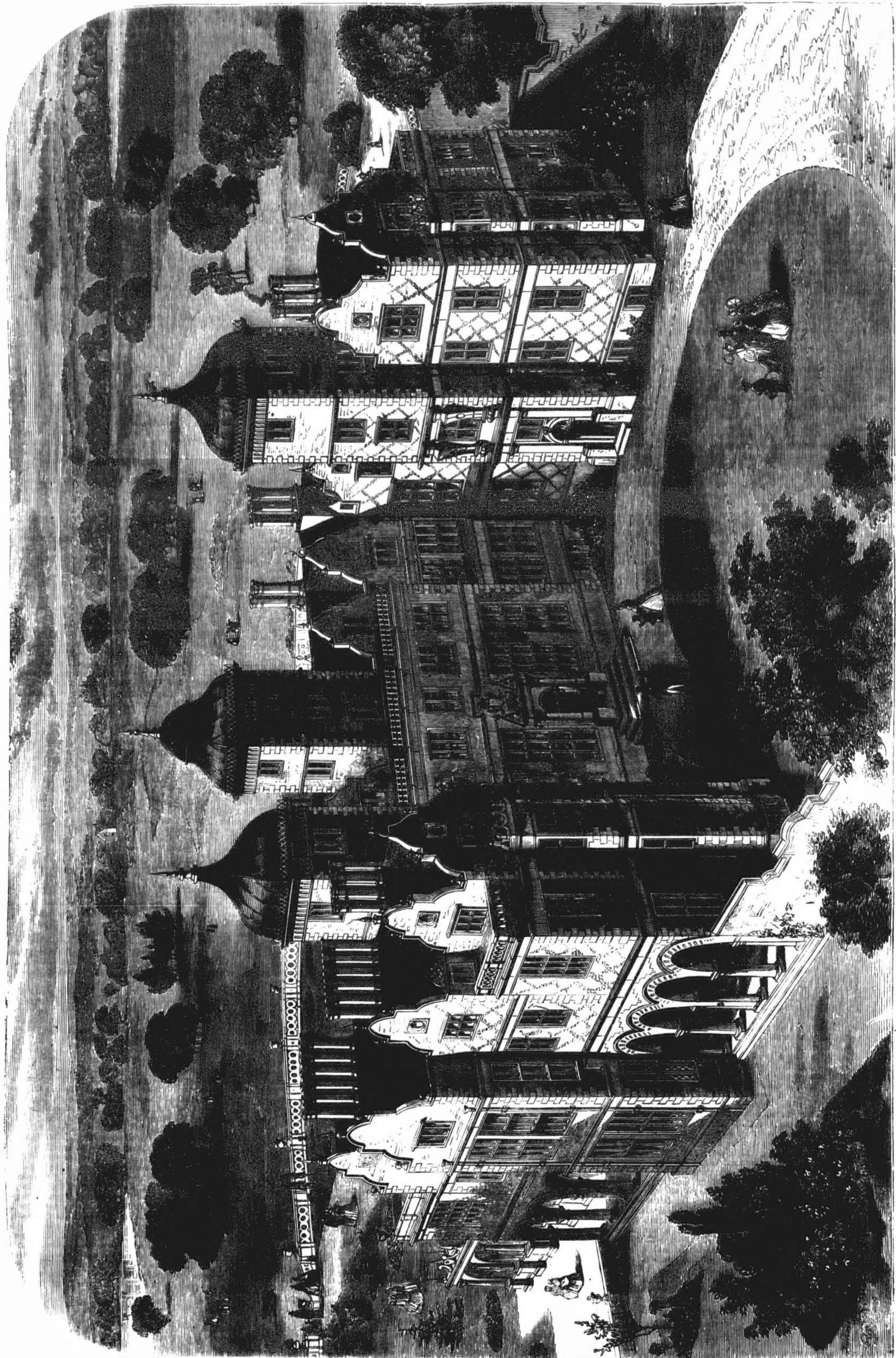
And here, in the interests of rowing, it is right that we should speak a word against a system which is rapidly gaining ground, and which, if carried out to a greater extent, cannot but produce disastrous effects to the cause of good rowing. We allude to the system of combinations. It has always been the practice to discontinue combinations as much as possible. At Oxford and Cambridge mixed crews of the members of the principal colleges are barred, as, at the Thames Regatta, are combined crews of North and South countrymen. The London, the Kingston, Leander, West London, and a dozen other clubs, have a history and traditions of their own, and a victory reflects credit not only upon the men who pull, but upon the club to which they belong; and thus by strengthening it does good service to boating. These names mean something, as do such names as "the Oxford Etonians" or "the Oxford Radclivians," who pulled at Henley. But when a club, of which no one has ever heard before, and in which there is so little club feeling that half the crew pull in jerseys of one colour, half in another, enters for a race, it is evidently a mere coalition of men of different clubs, who have temporarily combined for the purpose of winning a prize. If such a crew had even entered as "Old Oxonians" or "Old Cantabrigia" one would feel a warm interest in their success, but such names as "Oscillators" or "Voltigeurs" convey no meaning whatever to the public.

The public take an interest in clubs, or in localities, not in men. Not one spectator in every hundred who get up on a cold March morning, and go down to Putney to see the struggle between dark and light blue, cares for the rowing, or would go to see the same sixteen men row, if these were to join together and form amalgamated eights. It is the universities, and not the individuals, in which the public take an interest, and the men pull, not for their individual triumph, but for the honour and glory of their universities. And so, to a great extent, it is the same at these regattas upon the Thames. The public look to see how the clubs in which they feel an interest bear themselves, and it is with a feeling of general regret and disappointment that they see any victory over the old-established clubs by amalgamations, entering under names of which in another year one will probably hear no more. We have spoken strongly upon this subject, because the practice appears to be on the increase, and cannot but operate most unfavourably upon the interests of rowing in general. The only way to put a stop to it is, to introduce into the rules of every regatta the law which holds good at Henley—namely, that no crew shall be allowed to enter unless it belongs to a bona fide club which has been one year in existence at the time of making the entries. There is another suggestion we would throw out for the consideration of regatta committees, and which, could it be carried out, would greatly increase the number of entries for the principal races and would be of great benefit to pulling, by opening the door for very many excellent oars, who, having once won their "seniors," almost cease to row, because there may be four first-rate men in their club who monopolise all the important events in the year. A rule might be introduced, "That no more than two men out of any four which shall have won a senior race upon the river should again enter together during the same season." In this way the same club, and the same set of men, would not win race after race, and year after year. At the principal regatta of the year each club would send in its strongest four; at the other regattas fresh blood would be introduced, and other clubs who are now afraid to enter against such extreme excellence as the London four, would pluck up heart and make an effort. It is very gratifying and very creditable for a man to be able to show fifty or sixty prizes which he has gained by his prowess, but unquestionably it would be better for the cause of rowing had the cups been divided among five or six men of different clubs. On the turf, means are taken, by handicapping and penalties, to prevent the same horses winning everything, and without some such arrangement sport would be at an end. Surely some rule, such as we have suggested, might be introduced with very great advantage to rowing on the Thames.

BRIGHTON RACES.

RAIN poured in torrents all Tuesday morning in Brighton, and the opening day of this otherwise most delightful meeting was most discouraging. Nothing could possibly have been more wretched than the appearance of the town under the circumstances. Clouds drifting over the sea, and gusts of wind driving the heavy downpour before them in a perfectly drenching manner. This disagreeable state of affairs continued up to within a quarter of an hour of the commencement of sport—two o'clock—when, as if relenting, the weather partially cleared up, and bright sunshine brought into fine relief the undulating downs, the sheaved corn, and the bright green ocean, upon which the white waves played and danced.

The feature of the afternoon's racing may be soon detailed. Odds were laid on Van Amburgh for the Biennial, when opposed by Trocadero only, and the bookmakers drew "first blood." Van Amburgh went extremely "short" in his gallop, and could barely move; but, in the face of this, 5 to 2 was laid on him; but the non-favourite, Trocadero, made the whole of the running, and won very easily, having thus won the Biennial last year as well as this. Tyndale declined the Stakes' contest, as he had at Goodwood, being in reserve for the Cup on Thursday. Ten runners were exhibited for the Brighton Stakes, precisely double the number that contested the Haddip in 1866. Of the half score, backers "followed the money" of the stables, and Knight Errant and Cheltenham left off first favourites at 5 to 1 each, Jezabel and Vigorous being the only others faced, Mr. Hodgman trusting his "judy" mare with upwards of £100. Jezabel, the quondam Goodwood Stakes favourite, cut up wretchedly bad, and Vigorous proved anything but what his name implies, and Mr. Hodgman called out, "I'm beat n," when they were nearly a mile from home. By a singular coincidence, Joe, John, and Thomas Dawson were first, second, and third with their representatives, Knight Errant, Cheltenham, and Mandrake, "The Knight Errant," though many of the cognoscenti believed he would fail to stay home, won a very easy race, indeed, at the finish. Contempt carried off the Railway Plate, and Joseph Dawson was in thorough "form," as in addition to the Stakes he took the Marine Plate with the useful Troublesome. Fripponier, too, was indulged with a walk over for the Champagne Stakes, and the doings were brought to a close. The bookmakers went on their way rejoicing, that as a change from late luck they had basked in the monetary sunshine of what they designate "a good day," and vice versa the backers were by no means in high spirits.



ASTON HALL, NEAR BIRMINGHAM.



OPENING THE FIRST OYSTER OF THE SEASON

Dead Acre: A CHAIN OF EVIDENCE.

BY CHARLES H. ROSS.

Part the Third.

THE STRUGGLE AT LAST.

CHAPTER XIII.—(CONTINUED)—THE PLOT WORKING.

He waited silently for a moment or two, thinking she had gone out upon the landing to watch and listen. Finding, however, that she did not come back again he stepped to the door and peeped out. But she was nowhere to be seen.

"Well," he said, with a short laugh, "she knows best, I suppose. She knows what her game is, I imagine; though it's more than I do. I know my own, and that's to make tracks. I shall make 'em without waste of time."

He had found what he had been looking for, and put it safely away in his breast-pocket, then stepped out upon the landing and listened at the top of the stairs. There were the sounds of excited voices in the direction of Jeffcoat's room, and he heard many footsteps hurrying towards the stairs through the passage below.

"If he comes to again it'll be too hot for me," muttered Gay. "I must get out of this. I won't try the staircase, though. I can drop down easy enough from the window. Jane must shift for herself. It's best we should go different roads, too, if there's anything awkward. She must be in a mess now or she'd come back by this time. Well, we'll meet again some day, I suppose."

So saying, the handsome doctor once more stepped out upon the wooden ledge, and, working his way round the corner of the house, easily descended to the ground by the aid of the slanting roof of the billiard-room.

A curious, half-frightened crowd was gathered round the sofa on which Jeffcoat lay. A pompous little French doctor stood by his side; also a slim, yellow-haired girl with a haggard, bloodless face, and near her a tall, grave gentleman who had just now said that he was a friend of the wounded man, and that his name was Everard Hurst.

"You know him, too?" he said to Jane.

"Yes, very well; that is, I have lately made his wife's acquaintance—only lately, and—"

But here the words died away half-uttered, and she stooped down in such a manner that her face was hidden.

"Poor lady!" Mr. Hurst said. "It will be almost best if he never gets over this. It will be hard to wake to such news." Jane's fingers trembled as she busied herself with the arrangement of a bandage.

"What news?" she asked, in a strange, choking voice.

"Hush," said Mr. Hurst. "He might hear us, perhaps. We hardly know how much of his senses he has got. A steamer has just come in and the captain talks of a pleasure boat he saw go down too far off to go to its assistance. That pleasure boat, as well as we can ascertain, Mrs. Jeffcoat was on board of."

Before Jane could reply, the landlady, who had just entered the room, was expressing her astonishment in voluble French.

To think of Madame being able to leave her room, to which she had been so long a close prisoner. Was it not imprudent? Would she not catch a cold? Would she have a shawl?

Jane thanked her.

"No—no, nothing. I am going back directly."

"This is an English gentleman, I think?" said the landlady, indicating Mr. Hurst, and still addressing Jane in French.

"Yes," said the person alluded to.

"And you speak French? It would be so kind of you, sir, if you could spare a moment presently. There is a compatriot of yours downstairs who seems to have most important business with some one in the hotel, but we can't make out what he means. He says it is an English lady and gentleman stopping here he wants to see. The only English gentleman we have is your friend Mr. Jeffcoat."

"I will see him now," said Mr. Hurst. "I think it will be as well, too, if the room be cleared, eh, doctor? If one person stops—"

"I will do so," said Jane, quietly, and there was something so steadfast and self-reliant in her look that the French doctor could not help remarking to the landlady on his way downstairs.

"A very valuable person in a sick room. A great invalid herself, you say, and never leaves her room? Poor thing! so very quiet and gentle. A great sufferer, I've no doubt. English, I suppose, and rich?"

"Not English, Spanish, and not very rich; at least, we think not. We'd like to know."

But when Jane was left to herself she was not quite so calm as she had seemed a few moments previously. Indeed, had the doctor unexpectedly returned he would scarcely have recognised the young lady upon whom he had passed the eulogium just quoted, in the frenzied woman with dishevelled hair, who knelt sobbing by the bedside of the man she loved.

Her white face lay on the coverlet, his hand was tightly clasped in hers, and pressed against her tear-wet cheek. Her passionate words were drowned by the moaning wind. Her impotent ravings were lost in the din of the storm raging without.

"Oh, my God, take my life too if you take his!"

Presently there came a knock at the door, and she rose hastily to go towards it. Mr. Hurst had returned.

"I have been a long while downstairs talking to a person who seems to be the brother of Mrs. Jeffcoat's late husband. He is in quest of a Mrs. Gay who, he says, he has positive proof is stopping in this hotel. I almost thought by the description—excuse my saying so—that you were the lady."

"Me! Nonsense. Will you attend to your friend now, sir? I am going to my own room."

He drew back for her to pass and looked wonderingly after her. There was an angry glitter in her eyes that he remembered afterwards.

Left to herself, Jane hurried to her own apartment, opened the door and passed in. The lamp she used of an evening stood upon the table. She struck a match and lit it, then sat down to think a little. What had become of Gay, she wondered. Heavens! When would he come back? Would he come back? Somehow her mind was in a strange confusion. She felt that she ought to be doing something, but had no idea what. Well, she would think it over. That was what she had got down for, to think it over quietly. There was plenty of time. Now to begin.

The moments passed rapidly away. An hour had gone, and still she sat there almost motionless in the half-lighted room. Once, hearing voices in the passage and the opening and closing of Jeffcoat's door, she had been out to listen. The storm was subsiding now. The wind had gone down, and the waves no longer roared and foamed upon the shore. There was at the moment when she was listening on the landing a death-like silence, such as she remembered long ago in Norfolk-street that night her father died; when she heard his shrieks, crept out of bed to listen, and waited tremblingly for the cry to be repeated. With a shiver she came back into the room, and, leaning upon the window-sill for a long while, gazed down into the street, deserted now and very dismal.

How many nights had the old square in Soho worn this aspect, when she passed the weary hours away star-gazing? How often had she waited and watched, and stolen thief-like from room to

room playing the spy at the keyhole of every lady's room? Much in the same way she had gone before in her home in Norfolk-street. She had been downstairs when all in the house except her father slept, and peeped in at him when he sat busy with his papers in the office. At those times the lamp used to throw a dreadful yellow glare upon his hard, harsh face, the same face which she had seen afterwards unsoftened by death as it lay in the grey morning light upon the troubled bed.

What made her think of him now? She turned from the window with an impatient gesture and approached the table. The door opened slowly as she did so, and as she turned up the lamp the light fell on her dead father's face standing in the doorway!

"You don't know me, I daresay. I know you, though. I've never seen you before, but I can see the likeness. We ought to have made acquaintance with each other long ago by rights. We should have had time to be more affectionate then. It's rather the wrong time for that now, for I've come here on a disagreeable errand."

Deadly white, utterly motionless, she stood before him, her fingers tightening on the table edge.

"I can speak to you here without fear of listeners, I suppose? Where is your husband?"

She made no answer, but, without waiting for her reply, Solomon Acre had crossed the room, and was peeping into a room beyond.

"There's no one here," he said, coming back. "Well, I don't want him. We can arrange this matter very well ourselves. I'll shut the door while we talk, for safety's sake, because," and he lowered his voice, "it's a hanging matter."

Still tighter her fingers gripped the wood, but she said nothing, her grey eyes following his every movement with wistful eagerness, though she seemed scarcely to comprehend the words he used. Presently she had sunk into a chair, and he was leaning over her and talking to her in a low tone scarcely above a whisper, but full of threatening import. She did not heed him though, or seemed not to understand from this time forward. She was in a kind of horrible dream, having only a confused notion of events passing around her.

"There's Mrs. Drake can prove you had the poison two days after your father's death. She herself found the paper in your room. There's a woman called Stone who has something to add. The case is as clear as day, and it's a hanging matter."

At last she started up and faced him wildly:—

"What am I to do? What do you want me to do? I—I do not understand you."

"Don't try that on," he said, grasping her by the wrist. "You understand all that's necessary, and what I want is money. Don't let us work at cross purposes. Where is your husband? We three had better talk the matter over quietly."

She trembled violently, and clasped her head in her hands.

"Will you—will you send me to prison?" she said.

"Not if you come to terms. There, I don't want to frighten you. Gay will be in I suppose presently; then we can talk it over. I will come back in an hour; or stop, I will be down below in that coffee-room place. It's close to the door, and I can see who comes in."

He might have spoken after this, but she heard no more. Looking towards the place where he had been standing, some moments after he had ceased speaking, she was surprised to find that he was no longer there. With a sort of gasp and a sudden start she seemed to awake, and stared about her wildly. On the table was a decanter of brandy with about half a pint of liquor in it. She poured some out into a tumbler, and drank as though it had been water. Indeed had it been water it could not have made less impression.

She went to the box where Gay awhile ago had been searching, and turned over its contents, hastily searching also, when she saw he had taken a small store of money that had been kept there. Smiling somewhat contemptuously at this discovery she felt in the bosom of her dress, where she had hoarded up in safety a few golden pieces. Restoring these she sought out a bonnet and shawl, and, drawing her veil close about her face, hurried downstairs.

As she approached the passage she heard the landlady's voice at the outer door, and drew back to listen. Then when it ceased, peeped over the banisters, saw the coast was clear, and descended rapidly. On the right hand side was the room in which Solomon Acre was sitting. She saw him at a glance, but kept her eyes fixed straight in front and walked quickly past. Without the least interruption she had gained the street. She turned sharply to the left in the direction of the sea, and hurried away.

A few idlers lounging at the street corner looked at her with a sort of dull anxiety. Where was she going to at that rate? And then they decided without wasting words about the matter that she had some friend or relation among the missing at sea, and was on her way to the sea-coast to make one of the crowd of despairing women there assembled.

The storm was nearly over now, but yet occasional showers were borne on the gusty wind swooping past, and the waves still leapt upon the shore with that irregular plash betokening wild weather at sea. The moon had shown itself at last, but its flimsy light heightened rather than diminished the dismal aspect of the scenery. For miles the black rocks and barren strand stretched away—an awful picture of dreary desolation! As she ascended a twisting path leading to the top of the cliffs she left the roar of the sea behind her, and came upon what seemed a trackless waste, without one sign of life or light, as far as the eye could reach.

At the turn of the road was a crucifix with a dead Christ nailed upon it, almost life-size, and looking horribly ghastly as the moon's rays fell upon the white and red paint. She started and drew back, then gathering her shawl closer about her, hurried on at a quicker pace. Yet had she apparently no fixed idea of where she was going to. The rain began to pour down steadily. Her clothes were soon saturated with moisture and clung about her form. She was bitterly cold, and sick, and weary, yet she never faltered, but proceeded resolutely upon her course. The only thought firmly settled in her mind being that she must get away anywhere, no matter where; but she must put many miles between her and her fancied pursuers before she stopped to rest.

But at length she grew so fatigued that it was with difficulty that she could place one foot before the other. She must have travelled three leagues at least by this time, when, finding herself before the door of a squalid dwelling-house built among the rocks, calling itself an *auberge*, but being in reality little better than a hovel. She paused and thought that she would seek its shelter for an hour or two. She would be safe there, she thought, and presently would be strong enough to get on again.

A poor, thin, half-starved looking woman answered her knock.

"We've only one bed," she said, in answer to a question Jane had asked her; "that the poor lady has got who was picked up in Jean's boat."

"What lady?"

"A foreigner. Your countrywomen, I think—English."

"Picked up at sea?"

"Wrecked from a pleasure boat. One of a party of ten, and only two saved."

"Do you know her name?"

"I don't remember, but my son started an hour ago over there to the town where her husband is at the Golden Crown Hotel."

"I think I know the lady," said Jane. "Let me see her. I may be of some service."

"I shall be so glad. Come with me this way. She is in the back room."

(To be continued.)

FUN OF THE WEEK.

PUNCH.

WELL MEANT.—Shoeblack (to daily customer): "Such a treat we've got to-night, sir! Tean' Buns, an' speeches at Exeter 'All! Wouldn't you like to go, sir?"—City Magnate: "Oh, they wouldn't let me in, my boy."—Shoeblack: "Um! (Ponders.) Well—look 'ere. I think I could snug yer in as my father!"

WHAT MR. PUFF SAYS.—The ingenuity of advertisers is wonderful. They have now begun to deface the pavement, of course by permission of the Metropolitan Board of Works. With an apparent verbal contradiction, which may be excused for the sake of the truth of the observation, it has been remarked that pulling never flags.

FROM EGYPTIAN HALL.—The great Canal project of M. de Lesseps appears likely to be accomplished, but should it be otherwise, we hope he will not be tempted to commit *suicide*.

THE CORN-CRY.—As harvest-time comes on, complaints are heard that reapers are not general enough. This deficiency might be remedied, if the Americans would only lend us their General Sicksles.

PRACTICAL MILITARY JOKING.—Playing on a new Cornet. CHEAP NOBILITY.—Anyone can obtain a Peerage nowadays by paying for it. For a small sum he can get Brett's.

WORTHY OF IMITATION.—It has often been remarked that the highest posts in this country are open to the humblest aspirants. Footmen must feel greatly encouraged when they go to the National Portrait Exhibition, and look up at No. 619—John Thomas, Bishop of Winchester.

FUN.

HOOF DE DOODEN DO!—It may not be generally known that the barrels in the Government powder magazine are bound with war-whoops.

THE REAL "GAME CHICKEN."—The one who remained in his shell till it was chipped at the breakfast-table.

HISTORICAL.—Tom's cousin: "Who's the Sultan, Tom?" Tom: "Don't speak so loud, you ignorant gurl; why, 'e's the Belgian Prince o' Wales!"

THE GENTLE CRAFT.—Potter: "That's my Fish!" Toller: "I say 'e's mine!" Potter: "And I say as 'e's mine!" What d'ye come interferin' 'ere for? I come 'ere fast, and I've spent a box o' gentles, a bag o' worms, a pound o' graves, a lot o' brim, and a 'arf quarter loaf on 'im. I call it reg'lar unparliamentary; and if you want that gudgeon, yer'll 'ave to git 'im over my corpse—there!"

A CIRCULAR NOTE.—An eminent mathematician, who has solved the problem of "squaring the circle," is now engaged in defining the exact circumference of "the round of the paper."

NO ARDUOUS TASK.—Invalid: "Lor Jane, I do feel that bad! Do, please make me a tumbler o' brandy-and-water, as hot and strong as you cin—and—just make me take it whether I will or no!"

STRIKE, BUT HEAR!—A friend of our possesses such a patent safety disposition, that nothing short of a blow will disturb his equanimity; in short, he "ignites only on the box."

JUDY.

A FAR-FAMED German Musician.—Herr de Gurdy.

TO ARTISTS.—Can there be a more hideous caricature of the beautiful and good than to see Clippit's phiz drawn with a screw?

"HEER, HEER!"—The enthusiasm of the Belgians for the English is immense; we may estimate it by "Heeps."

ROUGH ADVICE.—Gentleman with bludgeon to Policeman: "You strike, old boy, me and my pals, we'll support yer!"

SUBJECTS FOR DEBATE AT A PUBLIC-HOUSE "DISCUSSION FORUM."—Monday: "Am I not Man and a Brother?" also "Flesh and Blood." To be opened by Stultus Redivivus.—Tuesday: "Why does an ass eat thistle?" By Asinus Major.—Wednesday: "Man is justified in committing (when hard up or down on his luck) treason, larceny, Sheffield murders, strikes, and sick-like." Broadhead Bros.—Thursday: "Am I greater nuff when I'm fuddled or when I'm un-fuddled?" Barday Topington, Jan.—Friday: "Two speeches are equivalent to one chop and taters, with a go of gin hot." Balderdash Jan.—Saturday: "An Essay on Costermongers. N.B. Songs to follow." Joe Turnouts.

THE authors of our best Organ Music—Händler and Dr. Blow.

POLITICAL.—The Marquis of Westmeath's soliloquy—"O my office is rank!"

THEATRICALS.—Why is a certain actor unlike most of his brother professionals? Because he's a "Man o' Airie" habits.

On what conveyance would you "go to blazes?"—A fire-engine, of course.

THE "Meeting of the Waters"—Brighton Races.

THE last "Rows" of Summer—The final Regatta of the Season.

REAL "Water Colours"—Sea Green and Brown Humber.

ASPIRATION of the Reform League—Let us Bray!

It has been truly remarked that it is impossible to make a real Pilgrim's Progress without a bunion (Bunson).

THE Paradise of Calves—"The Milky Way."

A FACT.—Miss Jones, an unprotected lady, sitting at foot of a tree, rating. Gentleman (?) passing.—Gent.: "Rating a sermon, my dear? Ha! what's the text?"—Miss J. (looking up contemptuously): "Answer a fool according to his folly." Gent.: "moves on."

TOMAHAWK.

SEVERAL Members of the House of Commons have recently complained that they do not know where to meet the Council of the Reform League, unless a room be provided for their use at Westminster. We can help them out of their difficulty. Why don't they invite their friends to meet them at the St. Martin's Baths and Washhouses? It is just the spot for tubs!

It is to be sincerely trusted that the Marquis Townshend and his "distinguished amateurs" will favour the public with a few more performances. It is not often that one can enjoy a hearty laugh at a nobleman's expense (out of the "House,") and really and truly his lordship serves as an admirable warning to those cooed idiots who are only too anxious to exhibit their incompetency as actors, before a circle of admiring (?) friends. As we consider the reasons that induced the Ancients to make their slaves intoxicated worthy of commendation, we strongly counsel the Marquis Townshend to continue his performances.

THE DAY OF KNIGHTS.—We understand that the following gentlemen and noblemen are about to receive the honour of knighthood:—1. The Toll-taker of Putney Bridge in honour of the Sultan's visit to Wimpole-don.—2. The Lord Mayor (baronetcy) and Sheriffs (knighthood) in recognition (of course) of the Laurels given to the Belgians.—3. The Bun Merchant of the Zed-gated Gardens in honour of the visit of the Viceroy to the Sunday Bazaar.—4. The Field Marshal attached to the Albanian Music Hall, in commemoration of the Belgians' visit to that popular establishment.—We have also much pleasure in announcing our belief that the following distinguished individuals have been selected by the illustrious guests who have just left us for the honours we are about to bestow:—1. The Mace Bearer of the Lord Mayor. The title of Duc from the Belgians, the rank of Pasha from the Sultan, and a pension of £4,000 a year from the Viceroy of Egypt.—2. The Bandle of the Burlington Arcade. A Lieutenant-Colonelcy in the Grande Civile from the Belgians, the order (2nd class) of the Moudi from the Sultan, and a bit of the Pyramids and a fine assortment of mummies from the Viceroy of Egypt.

A COCKNEY PARADOX.—Whalley's of no "walley" (value ?)

THE DRAWING ROOM.

FASHIONABLE HATS.

Bronze leaves, with bunches of metallic fruit of all hues, gold leaves, gold flowers, jet ornaments, and straight narrow bands of feathers of every variety of plumage, are in vogue this season for trimming hats. And as to the form of hats, there is no limit to the fantastic shapes they assume. There are toques and sailor hats, Chinese and Japanese hats, as well as Glengarry head gear, and other curiosities in outdoor head-dresses. One fact is very prominent—their proportions are as infinitesimal as those of bonnets. We have seen one composed of black fancy straw, trimmed round the crown with black velvet, and in front with a bunch of gold wheat ears and oats; the fringe round the edge is composed of gold beads.

BLACK AND GOLDEN HAIR.

The disposition to secure to one's self a head of black hair has often been the fashion, and people have devised all sorts of means to have their hair of the proper shade. It so happens that it is much easier to dye the hair a jet black than any other colour, and this circumstance is favourable to the frequent revival of black as the fashionable hue. There is, however, in some cases an apparent difficulty, for nature has almost invariably established a sort of harmony between our proper complexions, our hair, and our eyes. We cannot possibly alter our eyes, but we can change our complexions and our hair; in fact, we do so, for now that belles who take the lead in such matters come out with "coal black hair," like the milkmaid's in the song, a mysterious shade is also imparted to the skin. A gipsy complexion and glorious raven tresses, such as Sir Walter Scott commemorates, cannot fail to be very impressive and effective; but the bronze and the black lose their power if matched with a pair of eyes such as nature never gives with Indian locks and complexion. Under these circumstances it is certainly advisable that those who cannot resist the temptations of the colour in vogue should approach it with caution, and pause the moment art begins to destroy the charms of nature; for charms are destroyed so long as they are eclipsed. When golden hair was all the rage, we fancied we were making ourselves like the ancients; for they tell us that the old poets ascribed red hair to warriors, and tresses of gold to sirens—that Apollo had golden locks, Mars had red hair, Venus yellow tresses, and Minerva faxen braids. The revival of this old style may probably be traced to theological tendencies, for the advocates of pre-Raphaelitism are mostly High Church, and mostly patronize fair hair. They say Queen Elizabeth had hair as yellow as a guinea, and this is perhaps why Shakespeare patronized that colour, though it hardly accounts for Milton's preference for black.

FASHIONABLE GOSSIP.

The originality and beauty of Biarritz lies in its rocks, so wildly and strangely shaped, and forming a picturesque and most beautiful gulf. They are even tormented and hollowed by the waves, and sometimes pierced entirely through; the sea rushes into the caves its restlessness has formed, and getting engulfed, foams and roars in their dark recesses. Light bridges have been thrown across from rock to rock, and one would be inclined to quarrel with this touch of civilization on so wild a picture, if the bridges did not enable one to climb to the top and gain a splendid view of the sea. The Spanish coast stretches out into the vaporous horizon, and the waves thunder below. The sand on the beach is soft and fine, and shelves gently down into the sunny sea. It is a paradise for bathers, and a lovely place for all.

I must mention a present brought to the Empress Eugénie by a deputation from the rose growers of Brie-Comte-Robert, where three million rose trees bloom yearly, and shed their countless perfumed blossoms on Paris. A basket containing three thousand roses of the utmost beauty was the exquisite gift presented, and elicited the sincerest delight of her Majesty.

Very gradually the Parisian visitors are disappearing from the galleries of the Exhibition, and the fashionable beaches of Trouville, Deauville, Brevet, and Biarritz are dazzling with the gay summer costumes of the ladies. Grievous reports reach us that the toilettes are more extravagant and changing than ever this year; and from one bain de mer news comes to us from a lady, young and very beautiful, who in twenty days has twenty-five different dresses. We must not be too severe upon her, however, for she went to the seaside to economise! Oh, Fashion, how much have you to answer for! The anathemas of those who have to pay your bills are balanced by the praises of those who run them, or you would never be able to bear their weight. Many cry that '67 has attained a pitch of extravagance in dress never known before; but the evil is an old one. I do not think it was any better sixty years ago, when the Empress Josephine wore two new bonnets a day, and all her court followed her example. In Paris people must dress, and do dress; but when starting for the wild seashore wardrobes might be left behind, and a portmanteau or two filled with some pretty, sensible costumes. And here let my dissertation end, with the anti-Benoiton cry, "Oh! Sainte-Mouseline, sauvez nos filles!"

An entirely novel head-dress, called a bachelick, has been adopted of late for wearing, after leaving either an evening party or a theatre. And what is a bachelick? will be asked by all, save those who have travelled in the Caucasus and seen it worn by the women who dwell there. For the untravelled in those regions, let us add, that it is a sort of hood with two long pointed ends, which ends are crossed in front under the chin of the wearer, and then thrown carelessly to her back like the two untied ends of a sash. At the points of these ends, likewise at the back of the hood, llama tassels are added. This head-dress is quite Oriental in style, which renders it very popular at the present moment, as ever since the Sultan and Viceroy of Egypt visited our capital there has been a furore for all that is Eastern in style. When the bachelick is intended for evening wear, it is made of an Algerian material like silk gauze, with either gold or satin stripes, and it is then trimmed at the edge either with gold or feather fringe; but for seaside wear white, blue, and cerise cashmere are substituted, and black velvet with narrow black lace is used for the border.

At the Indian House, the Princess Alice wore a white tulle dress with a wide puffing at the bottom. An upper skirt which was vandyked round, and trimmed with blonde round each vandyke met this, and consisted itself of longitudinal, bouillons with large mauve heartseases in rows down each puffing. The body was literally covered with diamonds—diamond orders and diamond stars sparkled all over it. Round her neck was a mauve velvet, with a charming Rivière necklace of diamonds attached. A diamond tiara was on her head, and diamond stars dotted about the obignon. The dress she wore at the Guildhall was the prettier of the two. It was excessively long, composed of white tulle over white satin, trimmed with gold. A cross-cut band of satin with gold braid went round the bottom of the skirt and another about a quarter of a yard above it. Between this was a puffing of tulle dotted over with satin bows; a tulle puffed skirt came to the waist, and at the waist, coming on the right side from the middle of the back to the hip, was a short round basque, trimmed with gold fringe and braid. In this, through a simulated pocket formed of gold braid, passed two tulle scarfs, which met at the back of the dress, and were there tied in a large bow. The body was of folds of tulle, with gold braid about them, covered with a profusion of diamonds; and, as at the India ball, she wore a diamond tiara and stars.—*The Queen.*

The reason at Her Majesty's Theatre was brought to a termination on Saturday evening with the "Trovatore," being for the benefit of Miss Titians, who, of course, sustained the part of Leonora, which is one of her most powerful achievements.

THE GARDEN.

HARDY FLOWER GARDEN AND SHRUBBERIES.

Do not fail, where possible, to run the hose between all plants in beds. Thus stirring the soil assists in retaining moisture, and helps to destroy very young weeds. Continue to support the fast-extending side shoots of all dahlias. These are rapidly wrenched off by wind and rains, rendering negative, and that quickly, the labour of months. Finish putting in pipings of pinks, carnations, and picotees, whilst the weather proves more or less showery. It will be well also to proceed with layering them as expeditiously as possible. Sow seeds of the showy schizanthus for flowering next spring. Sow in an admixture of peat, leaf mould, and sand, and do not bury the seeds too deeply. Sow also 10-week stocks for flowering early next spring. Prick out into their permanent winter quarters all seedling or other pansies, polyanthus, &c., in order that they may become duly established before winter. Attend to all choice shrubs grown in mixed plantations or otherwise. See that no common shrubs or evergreens encroach upon the space allotted to them.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

A few French beans, sown now upon a south border, and in a position where it is possible to protect them slightly by mats from early autumn frosts, will be found very useful late in the season. The necessary space should be cleared and dug over for the purpose of sowing early next week autumn onions, to stand the winter for early spring use. Choose a good rich quarter for the purpose and well dung it. Procure tripoli or white Spanish for this purpose. Take up pickling onions and lay them in an open situation to ripen off their tops. The main bed of onions will be benefited by having the tops gently laid with a stick or other handy appliance, especially any coarse bottle-necked ones which do not bulb freely. Remove all side shoots, decaying and minor superfluous leaves from the earlier rows of celery, and tread the soil contained in the trenches firmly down, which will be of much benefit after the late rains. When sticks of celery are in request at the earliest possible date, a few inches of soil should be placed at once around their base, giving them every encouragement possible as regards freedom of growth by means of liquid manure frequently applied and other waterings.—*W. E. in the Gardener's Chronicle.*

AN ANCIENT RAID UPON "THE UNBRIDLED LUXURY OF WOMEN."

The early Christian Fathers sometimes refer to the luxurious adornments and practices of their times. Thus Clement of Alexandria (A.D. 180), in a work lately translated, says: "Silly women who dye their grey hair and anoint their locks grow speedily greyer by the perfumes they use, which are of a drying nature." Among the unguents or pomades used in his time he mentions the Sasinian, compounded or scented with lilies; the Narcissian, from the narcissus; the Myrsinian, from the myrtle; and that which was made from roses. He is severe upon fabrics "foolishly thin and of curious texture in the weaving," and he would have people bid adieu to "embroidery of gold, and Indian silks, and elaborate bombix" (a kind of silk). Nor does he like gay colours; for "the dye of Sardis, that of olive, those of green, rose-coloured, and scarlet, and ten thousand other dyes," are all condemned. Garments variegated with gold and purple and adorned with the figures of wild beasts, saffron-coloured robes, and many coloured robes of flaring texture, are also censured. He declares it to be the height of foolish ostentation to be in a flutter about peplums and xystides, and ephaptides and cloaks, and tunics, and so forth. "To drag one's clothes, letting them down to the soles of the feet, is a piece of consummate foppery, impeding activity in walking, while the garment sweeps the dirt from the ground like a broom." We can hardly match the ancient dames in expensiveness, "buying, as they did, a single dress at the price of 10,000 talents!" Their boots and shoes he denounces as frightfully extravagant, mentioning "gold-plated and jewelled mischievous devices of sandals, and Attic and Sicilian half-boots, and Persian and Tyrrhenian buskins." He doubts whether men ought to wear boots or shoes at all, as a rule, and preferred to see them barefoot.

He complains of the stones which silly women wear fastened to chains and set in necklaces—amethysts, ceramites, jaspers, topaz, and the Miletian.

"Emerald, most precious ware," and the highly-prized pearl. Nicostratus, he says, satirises women's "chains, collars, rings, bracelets, serpents, anklets, and earrings;" while Aristophanes supplies the following general catalogue:—

"Snoods, fillets, patron and steel,
Pumice-stone, band, back-band,
Black-veil, paint, necklaces,
Paints for the eyes, soft garments, hair net,
(Hirdle, shawl, fine purple border,
Long robe, tunic, parathrum, round tunic."

And still further:
"Ear pendants, jewellery, earrings,
Mallow-coloured cluster-shaped anklets,
Buckles, clasps, necklets,
Fetters, seals, chains, rings, powders,
Bosses, bands, olisbi, Sardinian stones,
Fans, helicters."

It would require a good share of learned research to explain some of these, but it is plain enough that the wants of a fashionable Greek belle were not fewer than are recognised in our day. Clement was severe and austere, and we may think he pushed matters to excess, as when he forbids "the ears to be pierced contrary to nature, in order to attach to them earrings and ear-drops." There can be no doubt, however, that he and the like of him rendered some good service in their endeavours to restrain the really *luxe effrene* of the worldly women of those generations.

AN ELEGANT COUGH REMEDY.—In our variable climate during the winter months coughs and colds appear the greatest enemies to mankind, and we are pleased to be able to draw the attention of sufferers to "Strange's Celebrated Balsam of Honey," which, as a cough remedy, stands unrivalled. Honey, in the form of a Balsamic preparation, is strongly recommended by the faculty, our medical works, and by Dr. Pereira (late lecturer on medicine to the hospitals).—See *Materia Medica*, vol. ii. page 1854. It will relieve the most irritating cough in a few minutes, and by its mildly stimulating action, gently discharges phlegm from the chest by easy expectoration, and restores the healthy action of the lungs. The amount of suffering at this time of the year is incalculable, and numbers, from the want of an effectual remedy at a low cost, have the germs of consumption laid. Sold by P. Strange, operative chemist, 269, East street, Walworth. Agents: Messrs. Barclay, Farringdon-street; Newberry, St. Paul's; J. Sanzer, 50, Oxford-street; and Butler and Crispie, Cheapside.—[ADVT.]

EPILEPSY OR FITS.—A sure cure for this distressing complaint is now made known in a Treatise (of 48 pages) on Foreign and Native Herbal Preparations, published by Dr. O. Phelps Brown. The prescription was discovered by him in such a providential manner that he cannot conscientiously refuse to make it known, as it has cured everybody who has used it for Fits, never having failed in a single case. The ingredients may be obtained from any chemist. Sent free to all on receipt of their name and address, by Dr. O. Phelps Brown, No. 2, King-street, Covent Garden, London.—[ADVT.]

LITERATURE.

"Letters on England." By Louis Blanc. Second Series. Translated by James Hutton and L. J. Trotter. 2 vols. (Low & Co.)

It is fair that M. Louis Blanc should be received as an authority on England and the English. This is how he accounts for our openly displayed sympathy for the South during the civil war in America:—

"It is right to remember that the North, besides committing some considerable faults, has been far from displaying the qualities likely to be most appreciated in this country: I mean the external dignity of attitude, the external dignity of language, a countenance stern and haughty, a quiet air, absence of ostentation and brag. In England—and this remark is not mine, but the *Spectator's*, a journal remarkable for the philosophic impartiality of its judgments, the loftiness of its sentiments, and its depth of insight—in England people are more inclined to advocate a bad cause defended in proper form than a good cause badly defended. That comes of the importance here attached to *externals*, an importance caused by something factitious, something conventional, in the existence of every aristocracy. It too readily measures a man by that which is outside him; it is apt to take the mask for the face itself. A democracy turbulent, braggart, restless, swift to pass from dejection to pride, exaggerating one while its strength, another while its reverse, using the abolition of slavery now as a question of nationality, anon as a military device, doubtful, in short, as to the nature of its aims and the chances of its means—that is all that aristocratic England has seen or wished to see in the North. And when, on the contrary, she observed, that the government of Jefferson Davis spoke little and hid hard, came forth calm in adversity and modest in success, kept its eye always fixed on its purpose, and strode towards it with a resolute step, she fancied herself perfectly justified in sympathizing with the South; she never asked if the cause of the South was just, if justice would triumph through the victory of the South. She judged the tree by its bark, not by its fruit."

"The Poems of Valerius Catullus." Translated into English Verse; with Life of the Poet, Excursus, and Illustrative Notes. By James Cranstoun, B.A. (Edinburgh, Nimmo.)

MR. CRANSTOUN sacrifices the sense of the original in many places for the sake of indulging in jocosity which is totally unnecessary and pointless, take translation of Poem lvi.—"O rem ridiculam, Cato, et jocosam":—

TO CATO.

"Here's a joke well worth hearing, my Cato,
A thing full of humour and fun,
If you love me I pray you give way to
A good hearty laugh when I've done.
I've just caught a young rascal decoying
My sweetheart with speeches so fine,
While she sat beside him enjoying
His glances as if they'd been mine.
Venus! goddess to lovers still dearest,
My passion I could not contain,
So I just took the weapon was nearest,
And pommel'd him well with my cane."

The sense of the last line of the original, is in our opinion, quite lost in the translation, which is weak and silly.

"Our Soldiers and the Victoria Cross. A General Account of the Regiments and Men of the British Army; and Stories of the Brave Deeds which won the Prize 'For Valour.'" Edited by S. O. Beeton. With Illustrations. (Ward, Lock & Tyler.)

As a proof of the combined courage and prowess of the Gael, the following instances among many others are given:—

"From an old pamphlet, published in 1745, we learn that a Highlander of the 42nd regiment killed nine Frenchmen with his broadsword at Fontenoy, and would probably have added to the number of the slain if he had not lost his arm. In a skirmish with the Americans in 1776, Major Murray, of the same regiment, being separated from his men, was attacked by three of the enemy. His dirk had slipped from his back, and, being very corpulent, he could not reach it; he defended himself as well as he could with his fist, and, watching his opportunity, seized the sword of one of his assailants, and put the three to flight. It was natural that he should ever retain that sword as a trophy of victory. In another skirmish during the same war, a young recruit belonging to Fraser's Highlanders slew seven of the enemy with his own hand. At the close of the engagement his bayonet, once perfectly straight, was twisted like a cork-screw. At the affair of Castlebar, in Ireland, when men of other regiments retreated, a Highland sentinel refused to leave his post without orders. It was in vain that they tried to persuade him to retire—he stood there alone against a host. Five times he loaded and fired; a Frenchman fell at every shot. Before he could put his musket to his shoulder a sixth time the enemy were upon him, and many a bayonet passed through his body. The power of discipline could scarcely carry a man further than this."

So long as the Highland regiments were kept free from any foreign admixture, they behaved admirably; but as soon as drafts from other regiments were introduced, discipline immediately began to fail:—

"For the lengthened period of forty years there were few court-martial and no cases of flogging in the 42nd regiment. The value of this fact will be appreciated by all who are familiar with the statistics of punishment in the British army during the previous years of war. It was only when a foreign element was introduced in the shape of a draft from another regiment that crime and its consequences became more frequent. The old soldiers refused to associate with those who had been brought to the halberds; they looked upon the latter as disgraced, whereas at the present day a soldier suffers nothing in the estimation of his comrades, though he may have been guilty of almost every crime. Would that one could revive that high moral tone among our soldiers which led the 42nd Highlanders to raise money sufficient to purchase the discharge of those ruffians whom they esteemed to be a disgrace to the regiment."

Nor were the Sutherland Highlanders behind their comrades of the Black Watch in the matter of conduct:—

"We have already alluded to the excellent character of the 93rd Highlanders, who enjoyed the same immunity from punishment as the 78th. While other regiments became partially demoralized through the admixture of improper characters, the Sutherland Highlanders remained uncontaminated, and preserved a uniform line of good conduct. Punishment is usually more frequent in the light infantry companies, because the men are selected on account of their physical appearance without reference to moral character. For a period of nineteen years no case of punishment occurred in this or any other company of the 93rd, and this regiment still retains that *esprit de corps* which has been handed down in the ranks, and is as powerful for good as the inheritance of a noble name or the pride of ancestry. The Sutherland men, instead of spending their leisure hours in drunkenness and debauchery, have devoted them to those athletic sports which useful Christianity has revived among other classes. Every one will admit that it is better to brace the physical frame by running, leaping, dancing, and tossing the caber (manly exercises in which the 93rd are still proficient), than to weaken it by vicious indulgence."

THE TOURIST.—VIEWS AT ZURICH.

THERE are few tourists to Switzerland who fails to wander—

"By the margin of Zurich's fair waters."

The town is beautifully situated, the river dividing it into two parts, which are connected by three bridges, one of which is shown among our illustrations. Zurich has some fine public walks, but few public buildings worthy of notice. The principal are the Cathedral, a massive edifice of the 10th or 11th century, in which Zwinglius denounced, though in comparatively mild and measured terms, the errors of the Church of Rome, and enforced the principles of the Reformation; and St. Peter's Church, of which Lavater was the minister. The manufactures are chiefly silk and cotton, and the great object of the Zurichers is to make money. There are no places of amusement; but there are plenty of schools and literary establishments. Living is exceedingly cheap, but the high rents more than counterbalance this cheapness. The famous Lake of Zurich is about 24 miles in length, and of a breadth varying to about three miles. Its depth in some places exceeds 600 feet; but near Zurich, for several hundred yards from its banks, it is not more than from six to twelve feet in depth.

MEXICO.

THE Republic of Mexico, after the loss of some of its finest provinces, comprises an area of 750,000 square miles; more than treble the area of France. The population exceeds 8,000,000, made up in unequal proportions, difficult to fix, of Creoles, or whites of Spanish descent, the dominant class; Indians, or indigenous Mexicans; and mongrels, half-breeds, or mixed races. The Indians, computed at two-thirds of the whole, a subject and submissive race, count for little or nothing in the political scale; although they now and then send forth a successful competitor for power. Juarez and Almonte are Indians. The prominent feature in the social and political system is the Church—the Roman Catholic Church, with (till very recently) more wealth, more influence, and more corruption than in any other quarter of the world at any period. Spanish bigotry, combining with Indian superstition, has here produced results which stagger credulity. Prior to 1861, more than half the productive land of the country was held in mortmain by the religious corporations or the clergy; their property being roughly estimated at 300,000,000 dols., and their revenue at 20,000,000 dols. (£4,000,000 sterling), double the revenue of the State. In the city of Mexico alone they possessed 2,000 houses, which they were in the habit of letting; and there is hardly a town which is not half made up of churches, convents, or ecclesiastical buildings of some sort. Schools are singularly scarce, the Mexican priesthood having an instinctive dread of education, and they have been remarkably successful in preserving their flocks from the mischievous taint of knowledge. Indeed, many of the working clergy are little superior in this respect to the Indians, who are permitted by their episcopal guides to confound the most revolting practices of their traditional superstitions with Christianity.—*Fraser's Magazine*.



SKETCHES AT ZURICH.—STONE BRIDGE AT ZURICH.

SANCTUARY OF NOTRE DAME, PARIS.

THE principal religious building which will claim the attention of the visitor in Paris is that of the famous cathedral of Notre Dame, the sanctuary of which is the subject of our illustration on page 421. This cathedral was erected between the years of 1010 and 1407. At the west end are two lofty towers, evidently intended to have been the bases for steeples, but the tower usually seen at the intersection of the nave and transepts was destroyed during the Revolution. The inside of the church (a large engraving of which we shall shortly give) has a splendid and imposing appearance.

development of the disease among the feathered denizens of the hills. On many moors good sport may still be had, and fair bags be made. Deer are getting into splendid condition, and during the last ten days have mostly all left the low ground for the elevated mountain corries.—*Banffshire Journal*.

ON Saturday an inquest was held in Cripin-street, Spitalfields, on the body of a boy named Martin, aged six years. On Friday the deceased was going on an errand with a plate in his hand, when he fell, and his throat was so severely cut by the broken plate that he died in a few minutes. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

SKETCHES IN INDIA.

ON page 429 we give three sketches in India. The first is that of the Commissioners' Court at Delhi, and here it is that the taxes are assessed, more particularly those relating to agriculture, as the land tax, and differences between the Zemindars and the Government settled. The Commissioners' assistants, both European and native, are employed in the collection of taxes.

Another view is that of the Chandee Chouk—the Regent-street, so to speak, of modern Delhi—which runs directly through the centre of the city, from the western, or principal gateway of the Palace, to the Lahore gate. It is a noble thoroughfare, fringed with trees on either side, with a certain amount of picturesqueness about some of the houses arising chiefly from their wooden galleries and balconies.

The city of Agra is situated on the banks of the Jumna, the entrance to the fortress of which forms the subject of our third engraving. The fort of Agra, which contains the Palace of Akbar, and the celebrated Motee Musjed, or Pearl Mosque, is one of the grandest structures of the kind in India. It is about a mile and a half in circuit, and its stately embowered embattlements, of red sandstone, are seventy feet high.

THE MOORS AND FORESTS.

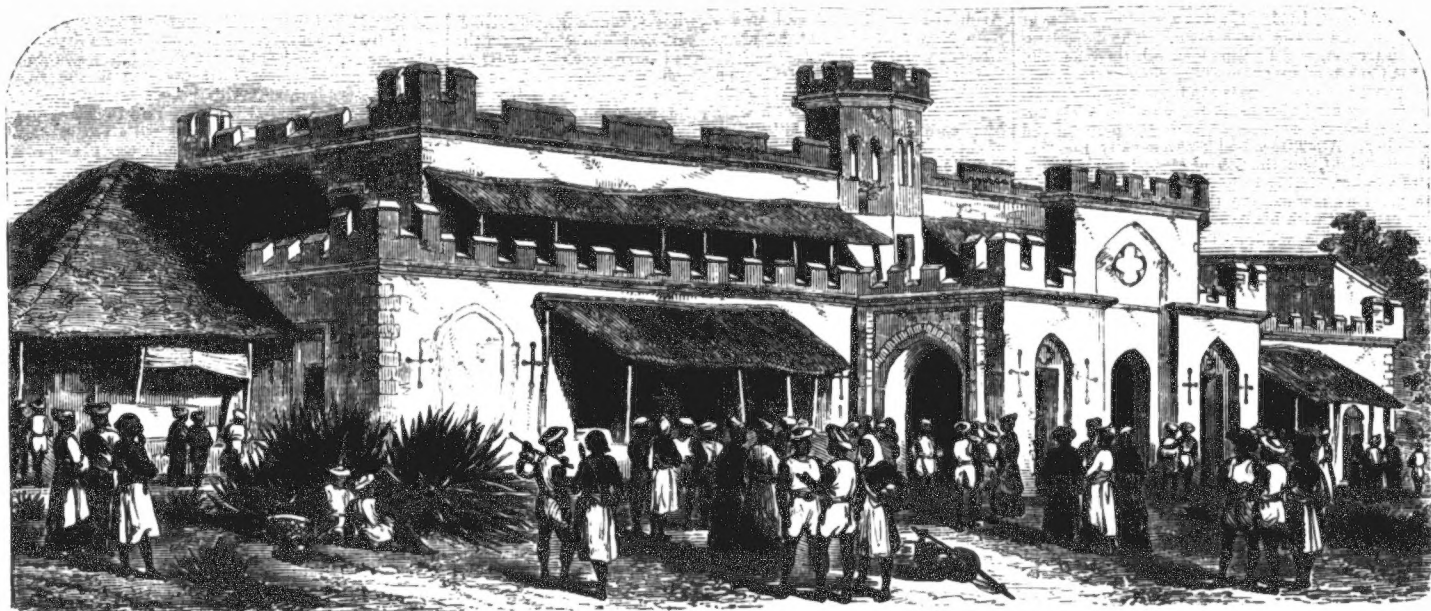
We are afraid that among Northern moors sportsmen will this year not find the amount of game to which they have been accustomed for several seasons past. The disease, tapeworm or congested liver, or whatever it be, has decimated many moors. A correspondent says that for the last six weeks he has only seen three young birds on a range of hills usually well-stocked with grouse. A gentleman who dispatched several hundreds of boxes last year says that he is confident that he will not have fifty similar boxes were he to kill all the grouse he has on a moor of many miles of circumference. On other moors, usually among the largest and best stocked in the country, the deficiency is estimated at fully 60 per cent. There are many moors as yet free of disease; but it is certain to spread, and we believe many owners of moors where the birds are healthy will shoot very close, in the belief that what the gun spares the disease will overtake. As to the cause of the disease, there are, of course, various opinions; but we may remark that almost invariably a bad autumn and severe winter are followed by a



HOTEL BAUR, ZURICH.



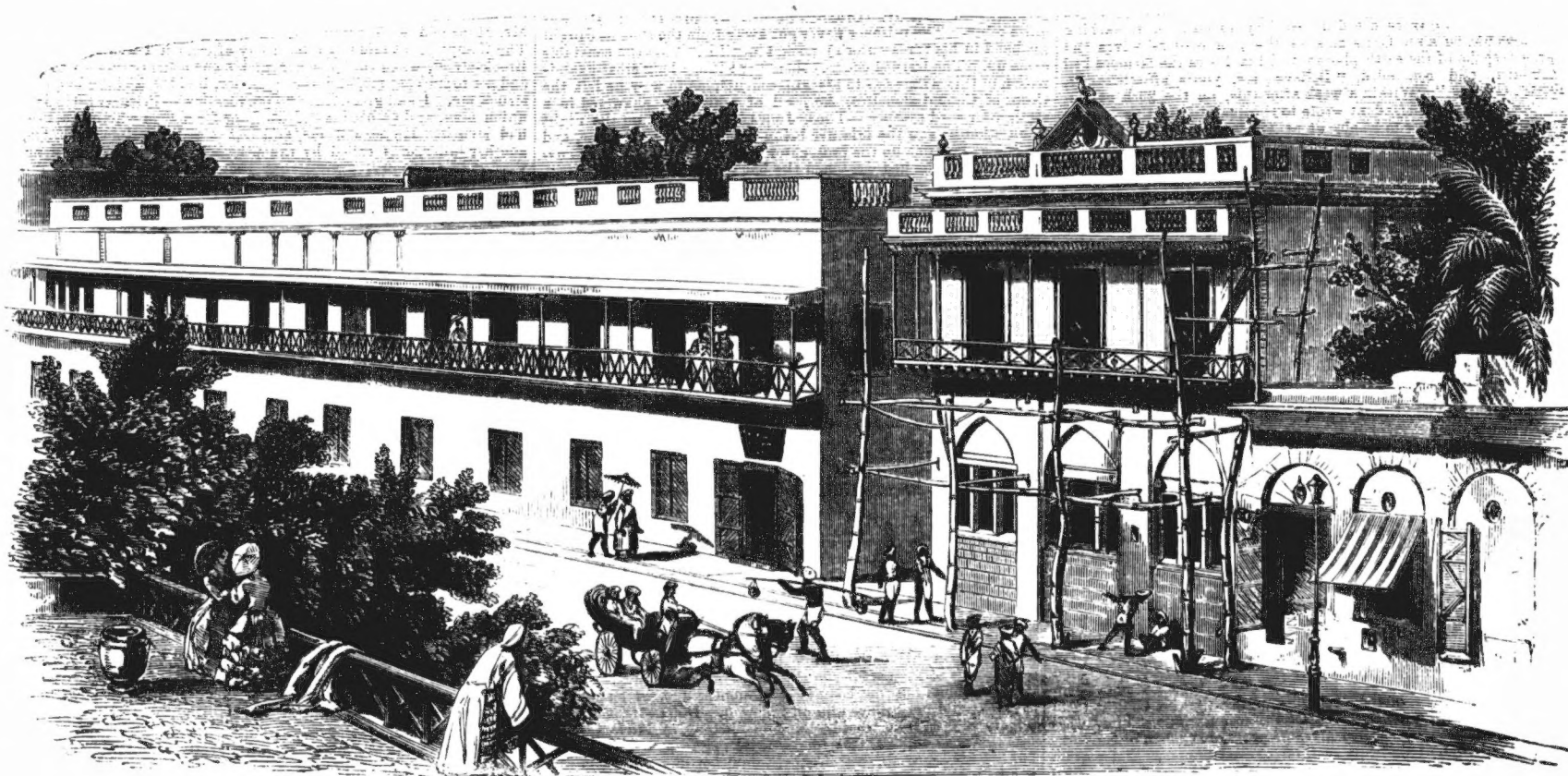
VILLA BAUR, ZURICH



SKETCHES IN INDIA.—THE KUTCHIRRY, OR COURT OF DELHI.



ENTRANCE TO THE FORTRESS OF AGRA.



THE CHANDEE CHOUK, OR PRINCIPAL STREET OF DELHI.

LAW AND POLICE.

BREACH OF PROMISE OF MARRIAGE.—The plaintiff was a young woman 22 years of age, and the daughter of the late Mr. Gibbison, who died in August, 1865. He was a woollen draper at Retford, and also kept an inn at the same town. The defendant, Mr. Wm. Williamson Groom, was a young man, a little older than the plaintiff, and was the son of an extensive tradesman in Bond-street, London, and carried on the business of a japan manufacturer. The defendant was sent by his father to Retford to serve his apprenticeship, when he became acquainted with the plaintiff and paid his addresses to her. After they had kept company together for a short time the defendant, on the 5th of May, 1865, wrote a letter to the plaintiff's father, stating to him that he had no doubt noticed during the previous few months that he (the defendant) had frequently kept company with his daughter, and that she was his frequent companion in his walks. They had enjoyed each other's society very much, but there was a drawback to it, inasmuch as they had not his sanction. He assured Mr. Gibbison that he loved his daughter truly, and he believed that his love was returned by her. His was not a love at first sight or a mere flirtation, and they could not love each other more than they did. Mr. and Mrs. Gibbison gave their consent to the intended marriage, and the courtship between the two young people proceeded. A large number of letters were written by the defendant to the plaintiff, the earliest epistle referred to during the trial being dated Jan. 15, 1865, in which he addressed her as his dearest love. At that time the plaintiff was staying at Norton, near Malton, with Mr. Wise, who married her sister, and the letter was addressed to her at that place. The defendant assured the plaintiff that he longed to see her, and said that her carte-de-visite was almost worn out in his pocket, and that her looks required no improvement. He had never before truly loved a girl, and that she would find his heart warm towards her. In July, 1865, he addressed another letter to her, calling her his dearest pet, and hoping soon to receive from her a dozen kisses. On the 6th of November, 1865, in a letter addressed to the plaintiff, the defendant termed her his "dearest Jenny," and stated that the first letter he had written to her was on the 7th of November, 1864, just twelve months previously, and he hoped that they would know each other for many years, adding, "I would I were a bird that I could fly to thee." (Laughter.) In a letter on the 4th of January, 1866, the defendant again addressed the plaintiff as his dearest pet, saying that ear-rings could not improve her, as she was handsome without them; and on the 30th of the same month he told her that the more he looked at her carte de visite the more he liked her, and stated that his father had recently been put to £3,000 expense in connection with his business. On St. Valentine's Eve he sent her a letter in which he said that he loved her most sincerely, and that he believed she loved him in return. He said that valentines were useless pieces of paper, not fit for people that were engaged to each other, and went on to say that from her lips he could hear words fit for angels' food. On the 6th of June he wrote to her wishing her many happy returns of her birthday, trusting that not a long time would elapse before her name would be changed, and that the first wish he had upon earth was to prove the sincerity of his love. His father, mother, and sister became acquainted with his intended union with the plaintiff, and on the 2nd of September, 1866, he wrote to the plaintiff, informing her that the match was approved of, but that the governor (meaning his father) "did not take very kindly to the new ideas," but that time would work great wonders in this respect, and that his father wished to see his daughter-in-law. The defendant after this sent the plaintiff a gold locket with chain, containing their miniature portraits, and at the latter end of September, 1866, the defendant's mother wrote to the plaintiff, showing that her son confided her secrets to her, and informing her that the defendant had his father's consent. Marriage was an important step to take, and her heart went affectionately towards the plaintiff, whom she looked upon as one of themselves. No doubt the union would make them both as happy as possible, and her best blessing was upon them. On the 3rd of September the defendant wrote to the plaintiff, saying that his father wished to see her carte-de-visite, and he was glad to state that "the governor had taken to the new idea," and that there was a bright future before them. On the 16th of the same month the defendant wrote to the plaintiff's mother, calling her his future mother-in-law, and that he had the sanction of his father to the marriage. The next letter alluded to in the course of the cause was dated the 12th of December last, in which the defendant expressed his affection for the plaintiff in the same terms as he had so often done previously; but on the 15th of December, only three days afterwards, the defendant changed his tone. On that day he addressed the plaintiff as his "dearest Jenny," and then spoke of the bad weather, hoping that there would be a seasonable Christmas. He next referred to three dreadful colliery explosions, remarking that it would be a sad Christmas for the poor colliers' wives and families, spoke of the cattle plague, and the losses the farmers had sustained, and concluded, "Believe me, yours affectionately, W. W. Groom." Within a week after this, on the 20th of December, 1866, the defendant wrote to the plaintiff, stating that he had asked his father to be absent at Christmas, but that he had met with a flat refusal, and an expression of entire disapproval of the marriage engagement. His father also declined to furnish him with means to enable him to maintain a wife, and the plaintiff knew full well that he had not a shilling to bless himself with. It therefore would not do for him to marry with such hopeless prospects. He had nothing to support a wife, his father would not help him at all, and he could not help himself. The reason why the marriage contract was broken by the defendant was that his father wished him to marry a woman in a better position in life than the plaintiff. The jury consulted together for a few minutes, and then found for the plaintiff—damages £750.

STALKING BUCKSKINS.—John Williams and Thomas Morgan were indicted for receiving eight skins, the property of Mr. Robert Wm. Shipway and another. It appears from the evidence that, on the 16th of July last, the prisoner Morgan went into the shop of Mr. George Winter, a leatherdresser, carrying on business at 24, Duke-street, Bloomsbury, and offered for sale the eight buckskins in question. They were worth about £8, and he offered to sell them for five guineas. Mr. Winter observed that the necks of the skins had been cut, and asked prisoner concerning it. Morgan said he had received an order for razor straps, and had cut them off for that purpose. Mr. Winter had previously been in the service of Mr. Pulman, who carried on business as a buckskin dresser, and recognised the skins as that person's dressing. He, therefore, thinking they were stolen, questioned Morgan, who said, first of all, that he had bought them from a fellmonger, in Hampshire, but on being told that the skins would be detained he said he would bring the man from whom he bought them in an hour and a half. Mr. Winter consented to this, and as he did not come back on that day the police were communicated with, and two days afterwards the two prisoners came into his shop, followed by a constable in plain clothes. Morgan then said that he had purchased the skins from Williams, and had given him £5 for them. Williams said he sold them to Morgan, and that he bought them at Hardingford, and afterwards at Fordingbridge. They were then given into custody, and Mr. Shipway, of the firm of Shipway and Hammond, of Oxford-street, recognised the skins as a portion of his stock which had been stolen. Mr. Pulman had supplied them.—Mr. Ribton elicited in cross-examination that Mr. Pulman supplied most of the leather breeches makers in London with that class of skins. There were about eight makers. He could not swear to which of them he had sold the skins.—Mr. Shipway swore most distinctly to a particular skin bearing his trade mark,

and that the portions of skins which had been cut off were those which bore the trade marks.—Guilty.—Twelve months' imprisonment each.

DARING STREET ROBBERY.—John Moriarty was indicted for stealing a silver watch.—Alexander Thwaites said he lived at 31, Arundel-street, Strand, and was passing through Endell-street, from New Oxford-street, at about half-past one o'clock on the afternoon of July 21. Just as he passed the corner of a street on the right hand side, a young man made a sudden dash at his watch guard and watch. He succeeded in getting the watch and a portion of the guard, with which he made off. He pursued him, calling "Stop thief!" Many persons were there, but none of them attempted to stop him; he escaped, and he (witness) gave information at the police-station.—Mr. Henry Herbert said he was a dealer in glass, and carried on business at No. 6, Lichfield-street, St. Martin's-lane. On the 21st July, at the time stated, he was walking down Endell-street, and saw the prosecutor on the opposite side of the way, and the prisoner make a sudden attack upon him, and immediately after he distinctly saw a watch in the prisoner's hand, who crossed the road with it, and ran up Short's-gardens. He (witness) and the prosecutor pursued him into Drury-lane, where he got away. He saw him the next day at the police-station, and picked him out from amongst fourteen other men. Whilst running through Short's-gardens he heard some of the men present say, "Trip the old—up," meaning the prosecutor.—Police-constable Frederick Kerley, 10 F, said that from information he received of the robbery, and a description of the prisoner, he went in search of him, and on the following night, whilst in company with Police-constable 189, in Little Queen-street, the prisoner passed them, and then turned round and looked at them. Witness went after him, and said, "You know me." He replied, "Yes, I do; what's the matter?" Witness said, "I shall take you in custody on suspicion of stealing a watch on Sunday last." He asked where, and the officer told him in Endell-street. He then asked "What time?" and was told "Between one and two in the day." To which he replied, "Well, I was there about that time."—Police-constable Philip Hines, 169 F, corroborated the evidence of the previous witness, and said that when taking the prisoner to the station he said, "I suppose you will give me a fair trial." Witness said, "What do you mean?" and he replied, "Why, put me with some others, and let them pick me out."—This was the case for the prosecution, and Mr. Williams, in addressing the jury for the defence, said that when his witnesses were heard the case would assume quite a different complexion, as he should be able to clearly prove an alibi. There was only one witness as to identity, and there could be no doubt but that he (the witness Herbert) was mistaken.—He called Robert Willis, who said he was a printer, employed on the *Daily Telegraph* newspaper. He was with the prisoner on the Sunday morning in question from half-past eleven to five minutes to one, when he, the prisoner, Fitzgibbon, Mahony, and another young man, went into Wilson's public-house in Drury-lane, where they had five pots of beer and some cyder, and stopped till five minutes to two, when they all left together.—Garrett Fitzgibbon confirmed this evidence. He lodged with the prisoner and worked with the first witness. Both witnesses gave their evidence in a very excited manner, Fitzgibbon averring to the truth of what he stated "on his dying oath."—A witness named George Mahony was also called, with another young man who was said to be with them at the time.—James Williamson said he resided at 18, Short's-gardens, and saw the prosecutor pursuing a young man who was not the prisoner. He heard the cry of stop thief, but did not attempt to stop him. He was a porter, the same as the prisoner, and worked in Covent-garden Market up till nine o'clock in the morning, when he was in the habit of going out and selling flowers.—The jury, after some consideration, said they gave the prisoner the benefit of a doubt as to his identity, and acquitted him.—Mr. Serjeant Bowring: Bring those witnesses forward. The witnesses were brought forward, and the judge, addressing Williamson, said he had no doubt but that he was the man who called out, "Trip the old—up," and as for the others, he believed that, with the prisoner, they all belonged to one gang.

EXTRAORDINARY CHARGE OF THEFT.—A respectable young man was indicted for stealing a bag and the sum of 14s. 6d. from the person.—The prosecutor, who wore three Crimean medals on his breast, and who was formerly in the Corps of Commissioners, said that on the 19th of last month he was in High-street, Islington. That was the day when the Belgian ball took place. It was about seven o'clock in the evening, and there was a great crowd. He felt a hand in his trousers pocket, and saw the prisoner next to him, and seized his arm while his hand was in his pocket. He saw his bag, containing 14s. 6d. in the prisoner's hand, and immediately charged him with stealing his purse. A struggle ensued, but ultimately a constable came up, and the prosecutor gave the prisoner into custody.—Cross-examined by Mr. Daly: He was quite sober. The prisoner never got away from the time he caught his hand in his (prosecutor's) pocket until the time the constable came up. The learned counsel then went into a long cross-examination of this witness as to his antecedents, as to why he left the Corps of Commissioners, &c., all of which he answered in a straightforward manner.—Thos. Jones, 165 G, said on the night in question he saw the prisoner being held by the prosecutor, and as soon as he came up the prosecutor gave the prisoner into custody, and said he had wrested the bag from the prisoner's hand. This the prisoner denied. The prosecutor was quite sober.—When before the police magistrate the prisoner, after being duly cautioned, said, I was coming home last night from a crowd, and was going past the prosecutor when I asked him the nearest way to Oxford-street. He pushed up against me and said, "Who are you? I know you before. I shall give you in charge." I said, "What for? You are mad or drunk." He caught hold of my right arm, and a woman who came up said "What a shame to hold the man." I was there at the time prosecutor told her to go about her business, and on the way to the station said he would not press the charge.—Mr. Daly made an excellent address for the prisoner, and said he should have suggested on his behalf that the prosecutor who he confessed had quite baffled him (the learned counsel) in cross-examination, had made a mistake. The prisoner, however, had given him such definite instructions, that he should simply obey them, and the onus would rest upon the prisoner and not upon him if the defence fell through. He was instructed to say that the case for the prosecution was an entire fabrication, and that the prosecutor was a systematic liar. It was a very bold procedure, he was bound to admit, and after the manner in which the prosecutor had answered his questions he was rather surprised at it. The prisoner had borne an excellent character all his life, and was an engraver, and, until within the last three months, had lived with his father, and slept under his roof. He had lately been married, and his young wife was waiting, with great anxiety, the result of this case. He would call several witnesses who would prove that the prisoner had been a strictly honest person; and that the prosecutor could not be believed upon his oath. He called—Mr. Joseph Turner, who said he was sergeant-major of the Corps of Commissioners. The prosecutor had left that body twelve months ago. He should not say he would not believe him on his oath. Did not consider him a truthful man from what he knew of him.—Mrs. Miriam Morgan was the next witness. She deposed that she knew the prosecutor but did not know much of him. Should not like to say she would not believe him on his oath.—The prisoner's father was then called. He said he was a lithographer, and lived at No. 7, High-street, Bloomsbury. The prisoner was his youngest son, and had always borne an excellent character as a very steady, honest, and sober man. He had lately got married, and was doing very well at his trade. If he wanted any assistance he could give it to him.

On the 25th of last month witness called at the Belgian Reception Committee-room in St. Martin's-place, and saw the prosecutor there, and he was quite drunk.—Four more witnesses were called, who spoke to the high character the prisoner had always borne.—Mr. Daly, in summing up his case, again urged upon the jury the improbability of a person in the prisoner's position committing a robbery of this description, and that he should rob a poor commissioner, who has to walk about ten miles to earn a shilling, and one would think about the last person in the world that would have anything in his pocket worth stealing.—Mr. Horry having replied, the judge summed up the case, and the jury, after a few minutes' deliberation, returned a verdict of not guilty.

WHOLESALE FRAUDS.—A youth was placed at the bar charged with obtaining large quantities of goods from various City warehouses by means of false and fraudulent pretences, with intent to cheat and defraud them of the same.—In opening the case for the prosecution, Mr. Beard stated that the prisoner had been engaged as an order boy in the firm of Messrs. Evans and Co., wholesale warehousemen, of Watling-street, and in that capacity had to go round to different warehouses in the City to obtain goods for the firm. In that capacity he became acquainted with many of the wholesale warehouses in the city, and was known to them as a servant of Messrs. Evans. The prisoner left their employ in February last, and had since had a situation in another wholesale warehouse, which he left about the beginning of July. Since then he had commenced the system of fraud which was now the subject of inquiry. He should be able to show that the prisoner had been to several warehouses in the City, and in the name of Messrs. Evans and Co. obtained quantities of goods, which he had either pawned or otherwise made away with. On discovering the fraud, the matter was put into the hands of Detective-sergeant Brett, who traced him to Exeter, where he apprehended him, and found on him some of the goods and several duplicates relating to other portions of them.—Leonard Brook, warehouseman in the firm of Messrs. Weintraud, Joyce, and Co., of Nos. 3 and 4, Aldermanbury, said that on the 23rd of July the prisoner came to him with a letter purporting to have come to Messrs. Evans' from one of their country customers, asking for six bags, at certain prices, but leaving it to Messrs. Evans discretion to select the sorts. The prisoner accordingly selected six, which came to £3 14s. 6d. The next day he came and had six more, which came to £5 6s. 9d., and at the same time stated that Messrs. Evans had determined to send six more to the same person who had sent the previous order.—William Graham, another warehouseman in the employ of Messrs. Weintraud and Co., said that on the 25th of July the prisoner came to him and wanted six travelling bags for Messrs. Evans and Co., and he let him have them. They came to £4 13s. On the 26th he had another parcel of travelling bags, which came to £4 10s. 6d.—Robert Birkmore said he was in the employ of Messrs. Evans and Co., Watling-street. The prisoner had been in their service as an order boy in his department, and left last February. He had no authority to obtain during the last month any goods for the firm of Evans and Co. They had no orders for travelling bags for any of their country customers, and never kept them in stock. They never received any of the goods the prisoner had obtained.—John Rudd, salesman in the mantle department of Messrs. Beloe and Spreckley, of 16, Cannon-street, proved that the prisoner came to him on the 15th of July with a written order for two or three mantles for Mr. Birkmore, the managing man at Messrs. Evans and Co. He selected two, the value of which was £9, and let the prisoner have them.—Mr. Birkmore said the prisoner had no authority to obtain these goods, and he had never delivered them to the firm.—Another case was gone into in which the prisoner had obtained from Mrs. Ratcliffe, of 110, Wood-street, twenty-one rolls of ribbon, valued at £16 11s. 3d., in the name of Messrs. Tulloch and Co., of 77, Wood-street, his late employers.—Upon this evidence the prisoner was remanded.

DARING WATCH ROBBERY.—Henry Johnson, was indicted for stealing a watch, value £20, the property of Mr. Stanley Dent, wine merchant.—The prosecutor, on the night of the 9th of July, was waiting for his carriage to come up to the door of Her Majesty's Theatre, when the prisoner snatched his watch and ran off with it. He did what was called the "double;" he first ran one way and then another, into the arms of a police-constable, who asked him what he was running for, and he said he did not know. The prosecutor's watch was picked up and given to the constable, who took the prisoner into custody.—John Shore, detective, proved several convictions against the prisoner, one being for picking the pockets of Mr. Clay, M.P., while in the lobby of the Commons, when he was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment with hard labour.—The judge sentenced him to seven years' penal servitude.

ALLEGED ASSAULT ON A UNIONIST.—A journeyman tailor in the employ of Mr. Poole, tailor, of Savile-row, was charged before Mr. Mansfield with assaulting Henry Cannon, another tailor.—The Complainant said: On Saturday afternoon I was walking in Brook-street, when the prisoner and some others came up to me and set to kicking me, and the prisoner, besides kicking me, also struck me. I had given them no provocation.—Prisoner: He is a union man, and accused me of working for a firm where the men had struck. He struck me, and cut my lip.—Robert Patten, another tailor, was called by the prisoner, and corroborated his version of the story, saying that they were first attacked, and should have been killed had not the police arrived.—Mr. Mansfield hoped that every trades' unionist who acted such a part as the complainant had done would be severely punished. The prisoner would be discharged.

GOODWOOD RACES.

It is now admitted on all sides, that Goodwood can boast of the élite of company, the élite of horses, and the most beautiful race-course in England, both as to scenery and the excellence of the turf. Everything also that can be wished for is to be found there—a superabundance of sport for the sportsman, and a galaxy of beauty that no other meeting could produce. The arrangements are of the first order: no unnecessary delays, and at the moment fixed for the weighing and starting, woe to the trainer or jockey who is late; a heavy fine, or worse than that, the certainty of not being waited for, attends the offender. There is something, too, about the noble owner's manner that delights everyone; he is gracious and affable to all; from the Prince of the blood to the most humble labourer, the Duke of Richmond has a kind word for each. To say that his grace is popular in his own country is to say little; he is respected and loved by every tiller of the soil, and it is highly gratifying to hear his praises echoed forth by all classes. One tribute, though couched in simple language, and emanating from a humble shepherd, must be recorded. Upon mentioning the name of the Duke, the peasant said: "He's a good, generous, and liberal landlord, and so was his father before him. The late Duke fought and bled for his country, while others of his class were eating the bread of idleness; he clung to the land from which he derives his wealth like a limpet to the rock, and was as kind-hearted to the ploughboy as he was to the richest tenant." This sentiment, though varied in letter, is kept up in spirit throughout the county, and fully entitles the present owner, as it did his father before him, to the appellation of the farmer's friend. The sport was excellent; open house was kept at Goodwood during the races; and there are few of the ancestral homes of England where unostentatious hospitality is more carried on than at the above mansion. The racing was good, but the betting fraternity have not made large gains. The success of Gomers for the stakes was unexpected, and because the cup was a moral for Vauban, the talent generally refused to "buy money." Brighton was full, and the races were more than usually attractive this year.

THE DRESS OF LADIES.

SIR,—Will you allow me a few words in reply to an article in the *Saturday Review* on this subject, which has been taken up by two of your religious contemporaries representing extreme views on either side. The *Saturday Review*, always brilliant, always caustic, and always following up with pertinacious steadiness the reverse of the rule to add to the greatest happiness of the greatest number, was, in a recent article, especially brilliant and caustic in its observations on the exaggerated style of ladies' dress, and the present habit of female powdering, painting, and hair-dyeing. The still more reprehensible practices of adding to the outlines of the female figure, "so as (in the words of the *Review*) to appear to have a bigger cerebellum, a more sensuous development of limb, and a greater abundance of flesh than can be either natural or true," were also severely dealt with. I hope your readers are not startled at these terms, and that they perfectly understand what is meant to be reproved by them. Far be it from me to excuse such excesses, or to visit with other than the strongest reprobation the attempts made by some few "women of our land" to imitate outlandish habits and customs. But allow me so far to undertake the defence of my fair countrywomen as to assert that such imitation is the exception, and not the rule, among Englishwomen; indeed, it is notorious that the head and leader of the "fash" and painted set in London society of rank is a German, and not a lady of British extraction. To these foreign freaks we owe whatever of unseemly, unfeminine, and imitatively unchaste may have crept into English manners. Paris, it is true, sends us "modes," and sends us also appliances for the female form in the shape of *demi-temps* and *poitrines adherentes*, which have as yet, happily, no English names. In that country, where the women resemble our fresh blooming patriots, about as nearly as their artificial muslin roses resemble roses in the garden, many devices are necessary which are not required in our happier land. In that land where the children of mothers of all ranks are put out to nurse as a regular habit; and where stuffy rooms, sugar plums, hotbaths and a swarm of *adorateurs*, form the general atmosphere and nourishment of female life; no wonder *demi-temps* and *poitrines adherentes* have become also habitual. In Paris (that Paris which is France), there are two examples of female proportion; the one very scraggy, the other very porpoiselike. For the scraggy, all these stuffings, paddings, mouldings, and beauties adherentes are thought requisite. For the porpoiselike, corsets that squeeze flesh into a modelled shape, as a pudding is pressed into a mould, are the *ton*. But English women, as a rule, require no such adventitious aids. They are content to be as Nature made them, with a few wonderful exceptions not of the best class, though they may belong to the best society. The constant use of the cold bath, a calmer, better guided, less frivolous life than that led by their Continental neighbours—more natural relations subsisting between themselves and their children, more intimate and complete union between such as are wives and their husbands—render those popular devices unwelcome and repugnant here, and make that which is old age in other countries seem scarcely middle age in our own.

It is notorious that beauty lingers longer among Englishwomen than among those of the Continent. An Englishwoman of forty, content to fade without plastering her cheeks with paint, and to grow somewhat heavy in figure without squeezing her matronly proportions into stays made for a virgin at eighteen, may still be dear and lovely in the eyes of her husband and those who knew her in more girlish days, and at all events cannot be an object of ridicule.

Walter Scott's description of his wife may be read by such women with serene satisfaction:—
Thou' that form which was fashioned as light as a fay's
Has assumed a proportion more round,
And the eye that was bright as a falcon's at gaze,
Look soberly now on the ground,

a charm may be left more satisfactory than all the pinching, plastering, and veiling of our Parisian fashion-setters can ever hope to attain.

Let us hope, then, that the pride of Englishwomen may be, not to be as Parisian as possible, but as English as possible. Let us have nothing, "a *demi*," neither "a *demi-temps*" nor "a *demi-monde*," nor "a *demi-terre*," and "a *soupeon de rouge*." Nothing *demi* in England, except our esteemed national beverage of "half-and-half." Let our young girls play croquet with clean, unpainted, and unveiled faces, till their cheeks, like that of Sir John Suckling's famous bride, become like a peach—

The side that's next the sun:

and let our English matrons take their lot of slow fading without attempting to rebel against the universal decree that "after ripeness cometh decline." So shall both ages escape satire such as is wielded by the vigorous and unsparing pen of your contemporary, the contempt of many they respect, and the secret disgust, it may be, of some honest heart they themselves have aspired to win.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, A MAGISTRATE'S WIFE.—*John Bull*.

THE COST OF THE SEVEN DAYS' WAR.

THE number of the "Journal of the Royal Statistical Office" just published at Berlin, gives the first official report that has been published of the losses of the Prussian army in the last war. According to this report, the effective strength of the army brought in the field by Prussia and her allies was 437,262 men (including 129 generals and 8,964 officers) and 110,192 horses. The total

number of the wounded was 669 officers and 15,508 men; of those who remained on the field, 178 officers and 2,753 men; of those who died of their wounds, 64 officers and 1,435 men; and of those who died of illnesses contracted during the campaign, 53 officers and 6,731 men. The total loss amounts to 315 officers, 10,562 men, and 6,190 horses. The number of officers wounded was relatively twice as great as that of the private soldiers.

FREEMASONRY.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—The fourth anniversary of laying the foundation stone of the new School was celebrated, on the 8th instant, by a grant fête on the premises at Wood Green. The occasion of the completion of the building and grounds was considered a fit opportunity for gathering together those friends and supporters of the institution through whose instrumentality so stately and superb an edifice has been raised. These gatherings give unfeigned delight to all who participate in them, and will, without doubt, be remembered with great satisfaction.

ST. ANDREW'S, FIFE.—The M.W., the Grand Master Mason of Scotland, laid with full Masonic honours, on the 30th ult., the foundation stone of a new Episcopal church.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DALHOUSIE, K.T., Lord Lieutenant of the county of Forfar, and R.W. Prov. G. Master of the Provinces of Forfar and Kincardineshire, laid the foundation stone, on Saturday last, of the new grand south front of the Volunteer Drill Hall at Dundee.

PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM LODGE (No. 753).—This well-conducted lodge held its annual installation meeting on Wednesday 31st ult., at the Knight of St. John's Hotel, Queen's-terrace, St. John's Wood. A large number of the brethren being present, the lodge was opened at half-past three by Bro. Baker, P.M., who presided in the temporary absence of the W.M., Bro. Key Hardey. The usual routine business having been transacted, Mr. F. C. Dalton, a candidate, having been balloted for and accepted, was initiated. One Brother was passed to the F.C. degree, and three brethren were raised to the sublime degree of M.N. Bro. Baker then proceeded to install the W.M. elect. Bro. J. F. West, who having acquiesced in the rules and laws laid down for the government of the lodge, was placed in the chair of K.S. The usual salutes having been given, the beautiful addresses in connexion with this ceremony, were most eloquently delivered by Bro. Baker. The W.M. then invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Woods, S.W.; Mullens, J.W.; Caulcher, P.M.; Treas.; H. A. Stacey, P.M., Sec.; Danvers, S.D.; Davies, J.D.; Windle, I.G.; Robinson, P.M., Dir. of Cera.; W. Watson, P.M., Steward. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren retired to banquet, which was of a most *recherche* description. The visitors were Bros. C. A. Pedler, W.M. 865; H. Reed, S.W. 733; Louis and G. Taylor, 25. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts followed, the replies being brief but expressive. Several excellent songs were given by Bros. Donald King and G. Taylor.

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CHEAP EXCURSION to Dorchester, Weymouth, &c., for eight or fifteen days.—On every Saturday in August, a SPECIAL TRAIN will leave the Waterloo Bridge Station at 1.15 p.m. (from Kensington 12.50, and Chelsea 12.5 p.m.) for Winchester, Southampton (West), Lymington (for Yarmouth and Freshwater), Christ Church (for Bournemouth), Poole, Wareham (for Swanage) Dorchester, and Weymouth; returning every Monday in August or September from Weymouth at 7.20 a.m. The next excursion train will leave the Waterloo Bridge Station at 1.15 p.m. on Saturday.

The tickets by the above excursion trains are available to return on the Monday week or Monday fortnight following the date of issue. For tourists' programmes and particulars of excursion times, fares, &c., apply at the London stations and receiving houses; to the station agents throughout the line; or by post to the Superintendent of traffic, Waterloo Bridge Station.

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